

MP stabbed at London meeting

Mr Michael O'Halloran, the SDP member of Parliament, was stabbed last night while speaking in his constituency, Islington, North. He was at a hall in Archway Close, Holloway, north London.

A man leapt at him and plunged a knife into his hand. People in the audience leapt on the attacker and restrained him until the police arrived.

Mr O'Halloran was taken to hospital but was said last night not to have been seriously hurt.

Shell loses claim for £24m

Lord Denning yesterday rejected Shell International Petroleum's £24m insurance claim against Lloyd's over the theft of oil carried by the scuttled tanker Salem. The theft was not covered by the insurance policy because the cargo had not been "taken at sea", he ruled in the Appeal Court.

Jeers and cheers for Thatcher

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was met by about 300 jeering demonstrators when she revisited her old school in Grantham, Lincolnshire, for the first time since she became Prime Minister. But there were cheers when she entered the school and was greeted by the 670 pupils.

Fall expected in inflation

Whitehall is confident that inflation is on a downward trend. The year-on-year increase in prices was 12 per cent in January for the third consecutive month.

Speed backs Tomahawk

Mr Keith Speed, a former Navy minister, is urging the Government to reconsider the Tomahawk, a sea-launched cruise missile, as a more cost-effective successor to the Polaris instead of the Trident II.



Lagos welcomes the Pope

The Pope meets a young Nigerian during a colourful ceremony in Lagos welcoming him to the country. In a speech greeting President Shagari he criticized interference in African affairs by outside powers, and predicted that the continent would around the rest of the world if allowed to develop on its own.

Lead in petrol

Mrs Thatcher's claim that European regulations preclude a ban on lead in petrol was refuted by CLEAR, the anti-pollution organization, which said she should fight the case in Brussels using the same attitude that she took over Britain's EEC Budget contribution.

Foot promise

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour Party leader has promised to change councils' legal status so that their financial rights and powers are more clearly defined.

No Chelsea ban

The ban on Chelsea supporters attending away games was lifted by the Football Association after five attempts to enforce it.

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Carrington makes three demands on Poland

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Feb 12

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, today called on the Soviet Union to stop its direct and indirect pressure on Poland "exerted to frustrate the clear aspirations of the Polish people for national renewal".

In a well received speech to the European Security Review Conference here, he went on to make three demands of the regime in Warsaw, which have emerged as the joint Western position at this conference. They are: prompt ending of martial law; release of those detained; and resumption of national dialogue in which both Solidarity and the Catholic Church participate.

"The moment of truth can no longer be evaded. The health, not just of the European security process but also of East-West relations in Europe depends on closing the gap which today is all too obvious to our people", the Foreign Secretary declared.

"The value of the Helsinki process will be lost if we do not soon have some evidence that these principles will be respected in practice by every participating state."

Lord Carrington spoke without any hindrance or repetition of Tuesday's obstruction by the Polish and Soviet delegations after the meeting agreed to procedure proposed by Dr Wilfried Pahr, the Austrian Foreign Minister. In a conference with the neutrals, he suggested an all-day-long session without an arbitrary break at lunchtime. This met with an immediate consensus while the Russians stayed silent. Portugal took over the chair today.

Lord Carrington, talking later to reporters, argued that it was "a little bit too soon" for the conference to adjourn. The Madrid conference will, he said, be the last of the series. He suggested, in order to await possible improvements in Poland. But, like several other Western delegations today, he insisted that the main objective must be to ensure no conference break.

He said that the 1975 Helsinki Accords, signed by Poland and the Soviet Union, Lord Carrington observed: "There is no consideration that can be invoked which justifies the degree of Soviet intervention in Polish internal affairs which we have seen. I call on the Soviet Union to respect Poland's fundamental right to solve her own problems free from foreign interference." If

the West had ignored what had happened in Poland and the complicity of the Soviet Union, it would have constituted an open invitation for something even more serious.

The Foreign Secretary emphasized that the British Government recognized Poland's alliance with the Soviet Union. But he went on to outline a four-fold Soviet responsibility for internal developments in Poland since August, 1980. There had been a sustained campaign of public and secret pressure on Warsaw to secure the suppression of a popular movement; threatening military manoeuvres; involvement in secret preparations for imposing martial law; and preventing news of developments from reaching the Polish people through the jamming of broadcasts by Soviet transmitters at Smolensk and Kaliningrad.

Referring to the use of force to impose the will of the regime on Polish workers, Lord Carrington noted that the violence and deaths had not been the cause but the consequence of introducing martial law. The evidence so far prevented the West, he said, from taking the regime's assurances about restoring civil liberties at face value.

Mr Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, who was prevented on Tuesday from addressing the conference, prefaced his speech today with the remarks: "Everything comes to pass even the turn of France. How some delegations must have feared this freedom of expression if they dedicated so many hours to arbitrary obstructionist manoeuvres!"

He told the Soviet Union that the suppression of civil liberties would be the price required for achieving stability in Europe. The Helsinki process was never intended to cement positions in Europe forever but, on the contrary, to permit the evolution which the people of Europe desired.

Today's arrangement to "work more than 22 speeches was worked out at a meeting by six neutral countries last night. Dr Franz Ciska, the Austrian permanent delegate, told reporters today he believed the Russians had dropped their obstructionist tactics, realizing they had proved counter-productive.

It was agreed tonight that the next plenary session will be held on Wednesday. No decision was taken on adjourning the Madrid meeting.

Polish pilot flies his family to the West

West Berlin, Feb 12.—A Polish Airlines pilot today diverted his aircraft from an internal flight to bring his family to West Berlin, in a hijacking that apparently went unnoticed by the two security guards on board.

The Antonov-24 of the Polish state airline, Lot, was on a flight from Warsaw to Wrocław in western Poland. The flight should have lasted just over an hour, but 90 minutes after take-off the surprised passengers found themselves in West Berlin.

The aircraft, landed at the United States military air base of Tempelhof at 8.51 am. The pilot, his wife, their two daughters, aged two and three, his cousin and his wife with their 14-month-old baby girl all remained in West Berlin, according to United States military sources.

Two security guards, who had been among the 19 passengers, remained on board while the others were questioned by West Berlin police in the air terminal building.

The police said that no one in the passenger cabin had apparently noticed the change of course.

The co-pilot and one other male passenger were to remain in West Berlin, but the remaining passengers would return to Warsaw as soon as Lot provided a new crew. The airline had already offered to do so, they said.

There could be no formal charge of air piracy brought against the pilot, because he had flown the aircraft himself and had not used force or threats to take command, according to the police. But he could still be charged with detaining some of his passengers against their will, a lesser charge which can still carry a five-year jail sentence.

There have been five other hijackings of Polish aircraft to West Berlin so far, and several attempts have been made by Polish security guards before leaving Polish air space.

Today's hijack was the first such incident since martial law was declared in Poland on December 13.

The authorities have tried to discourage hijackers by imposing stiff jail sentences.—Reuters.

Mrs Oppenheim may not be replaced

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mrs Sally Oppenheim yesterday resigned from the post of Minister for Consumer Affairs "to do justice to family commitments and responsibilities".

She was warmly thanked by the Prime Minister, but the news that there are no plans to replace her has roused anxiety among Conservatives who see considerable political value in a minister who is known, or at least supposed, to have the consumers' interests at heart.

Mrs Oppenheim's duties at the Department of Trade have already been divided between two parliamentary under-secretaries under the supervision of Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State.

Mr Reginald Eyre takes over competition policy, including monopolies and mergers, consumer protection and responsibility for nationalised industries' consumer councils. Mr Iain Sproule will be responsible for tourism, hotels and travel, as well as the newspaper, film and publishing industries.

Mrs Oppenheim, who told the Prime Minister before Christmas that she wanted to leave office, wrote yesterday that her decision was taken after a period of considerable pressure after the death two years ago of her husband, Mr Henry Oppenheim, who had a successful property business.

Her personal assistant, Miss Olivia Rolleston, explained yesterday that Mrs Oppenheim had taken on many of her husband's business responsibilities. She had resigned most reluctantly, and might well take a part-time job later. She had already been offered yesterday a directorship of a major national company in the consumer field.

Mrs Oppenheim, who is 51, has been MP for Gloucester since 1970, and has no intention of leaving the Commons.

For five years in Opposition she was party spokesman on the embroilment of commercial interests which tends to claim the party as their own. Her colleagues' verdict on Mrs Oppenheim is that she managed it pretty well.



Mr Hu Yaobang (centre), who became Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party last June, gives a public demonstration of the new broom sweeping clean. Mr Hu assumed his post after the demotion of Mr Hua Guofeng, successor to Chairman Mao. It is common for photographs to be issued of China's leaders performing everyday tasks, such as helping with work on a dam or mingling with labourers on a commune. Peking released this photograph yesterday, possibly because of speculation about the absence from public view over the past three weeks of Party leaders.

Ulster boys' sex inquiry in chaos after walkout

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

The inquiry into the Kinross Boys' Home homosexual scandal faced collapse within hours of opening in Belfast yesterday when three members of the investigating committee resigned because they said major criminal aspects of the affair had still not been dealt with.

Professor Norman Turt of Lancaster University, Professor Olive Stevenson of Keele University and Dr Stanley Worrell, a former headmaster of Methodist College, Belfast, withdrew from the inquiry after Mr Richard Ferguson, QC, the committee's legal adviser announced that he was taking no further part in the proceedings as he believed it was a useless exercise.

They said they had been assured that the police were satisfied that all criminal aspects of the affair had been disposed of, but further inquiry proved that was not the case.

They added: "We do not therefore believe that it would be right to continue our investigation until these matters have been satisfactorily resolved."

Mr Stephen McGonagle, the chairman, said that his committee no longer existed, but he would remain in office until Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland decided what should be done.

Mr McGonagle, the former Northern Ireland ombudsman, said last night that he was disappointed by the resignations. "I think that the care of children is of paramount importance to me. It takes priority over any form of investigation into any kind of incidents which took place in this home."

The committee was set up last month by Mr Prior to investigate the failure to identify malpractices in certain children's homes in Northern Ireland which resulted in convictions for sexual offences against children in Government care.

There have been persistent pressures for a full judicial inquiry, repeated yesterday by Mr Gerard Fitt, MP for West Belfast, who said he had told the committee he was dissatisfied with the scope of their investigation which gave insufficient protection to witnesses. He said the committee's terms of reference were too restrictive.

Mr Ferguson said Mr McGonagle had been given an impossible brief. The strength and seriousness of the allegations were of such a nature that only a full public inquiry would satisfy the community that things were being done properly.

Dr Worrell said last night that he and his two colleagues had felt their task impossible while serious criminal investigations were taking place into the homes (David Nicholson-Lord writes).

"It was becoming apparent that we should not be able to identify individuals, finding out that X did this and Y did that. We are going to start trespassing on criminal matters and we are not properly constituted to go into that."

There was no urgent crisis in the homes and criminal investigations should be cleared up before any inquiry could be resumed, he said.

BR could be switching to Aslef line

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

British Rail is considering agreeing to pay 3 per cent rise to locomotive drivers for rapid but non-binding arbitration on drivers' hours within the railway industry's own negotiating machinery.

If Lord McCarthy makes a recommendation to that effect, the British Railways Board could agree on Tuesday, provided it was underwritten by a statement making it clear that the drivers' eight-hour day was now open for modification.

The move would mean a reference, possibly within days, of the flexible rostering issue to the Railway Staff National Tribunal (RSNT), also chaired by Lord McCarthy. As such it would be seen as a substantial shift towards the terms sought by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen for any inquiry into the productivity issue at the heart of the dispute.

Nevertheless, one view gaining ground within British Rail is that Aslef, which has long argued for the industry's own machinery to be used, could hardly ignore the findings of the RSNT, if as British Rail hopes, it came down in favour of ending the drivers' eight-hour day.

Sir Peter Parker, BR's chair-

Reagan to visit Britain

Washington, Feb 11.—President Reagan will visit London and Bonn in addition to Paris and Rome during a West European tour in June (Mohsin Ali writes).

The White House today announced that the President will be in Britain from June 7 to 9 at the invitation of the Queen and Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister.

President Reagan will arrive in Bonn on June 9 to attend a Nato summit meeting on June 10 and then return to Washington. He will also attend an economic summit meeting in France and have an audience with the Pope in Rome before flying to Britain.

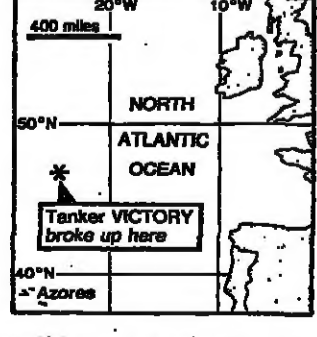
Thirteen lost after lifeboat from crippled ship sinks

By David Cross

Thirteen crewmen from the crippled Greek tanker Victory were believed to have died yesterday within sight of the lifeboats from the front section of the stricken ship. About 18 others were left apparently without lifeboats or life rafts, clinging for their lives to the deck superstructure of the vessel after part of the vessel.

Rescue ships and aircraft which answered SOS calls from the Victory stood helplessly as the heavy seas and strong winds made rescue attempts impossible. An RAF Nimrod aircraft, which joined the search after first light, dropped eight inflatable dinghies close to the stern section before abandoning the search when flames engulfed the Nimrod's flight deck. The aircraft later landed safely in the Azores.

Two American aircraft, an Orion and a C130, were on their way to the Victory yesterday afternoon with medical teams on board. If weather



Wider strike threatened at Heathrow

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

British Airways hopes to avert a dispute over flexible rostering due out of Heathrow airport, London, this weekend despite a railway-style strike by 2,000 ground staff over flexible work rostering.

Volunteers including BA pilots yesterday kept the airline in business by loading travellers' baggage into planes, but the disruption of services is expected to increase after a decision by the Transport and General Workers' Union to make the dispute official.

Union officials issued a warning last night that the dispute, which has affected only short-haul BA flights, could spread to other European airlines, which are also serviced by BA staff, could be grounded.

There were no plans for talks between BA management and the union on the disrupted new working arrangements. The airline said it wanted flexible rostering of the kind sought by British Rail to allow shifts varying from seven to nine hours.

Mr John Collier, a union official, said the action was taken after the airline's refusal to recognize existing agreements.

Fowler to seek private health cash for NHS

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

A growing partnership between the National Health Service and private health care is being sought by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services. It is understood that the minister wants links to be forged in several different directions, and intends to bring about an irreversible shift in the relationship between private and public health systems.

The Government is expected to demand that private hospitals and clinics should make a hard cash contribution towards the training of nurses recruited from the NHS.

That money could then be used to improve conditions for NHS nurses, for whom the department is trying to find a new pay determination system.

It is also thought that the NHS could benefit directly from opening private facilities to high-risk NHS patients whenever spare capacity is available.

It is part of the case for private medicine that the alternative system takes pressure off the public health service. Such arguments would be reinforced if ministers could use private health facilities for NHS patients.

Government sources also indicate that there is scope for putting private capital into the NHS from the sale of surplus hospital land. It is thought that funds raised in that way could be used directly to bolster health care locally.

The department is to be asked to survey hospital land

Benefit plea on asbestos disease victims

By David Nicholson-Lord

A government-prompted inquiry into industrial disease caused by asbestos is likely to recommend broadening the categories of qualifying illness so that more workers are awarded public compensation.

The inquiry, by the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council, was set up in the face of growing concern that anomalies in social security legislation were leading to legitimate cases of asbestos-related illness or death being refused awards by pneumoconiosis panels. It is likely to report later this year.

Among the rules it is considering is that which prevents benefit being granted for effects on the pleura, or lung linings, as opposed to the lung itself. Representations from the former head of the Medical Research Council's pneumoconiosis unit led to the setting up of the inquiry in the summer of 1980.

Mr Reg Prentice, who was then Minister of State for Social Security, gave among his reasons for its establishment the "substantial body of evidence available on the relationship between asbestos exposure and lung cancer".

The inquiry is broadly concerned with asbestos disease where asbestos, the main condition which qualifies a worker for benefit, is not present.

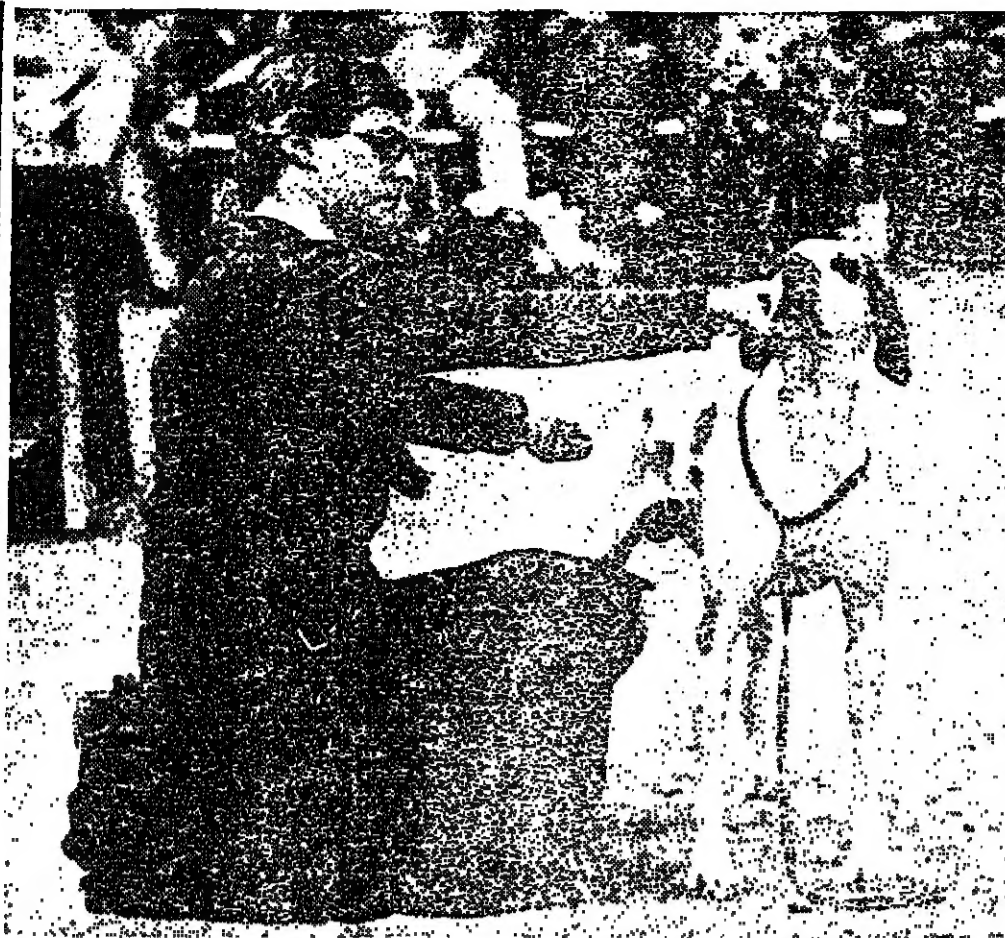
However, critics have said that refusing benefit for pleural effects, notably a condition known as diffuse pleural thickening, is an absurdity. It is an example of workers going on to make successful legal claims for damages from their employers.

Mrs Nancy Tait, secretary of the Society for the Prevention of Asbestosis and Industrial Disease, said yesterday that about three-quarters of applicants for benefit were rejected by panels, 357 out of 485 in 1978. She estimated that in half those cases the reason for rejection was that the effects were confined to the pleura.

The Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that it did not normally fund publications by researchers, but the Cheetham report was felt to be of value to social services departments, so help had been offered with publishing the report.

The department was spending £20,000 in 1981-82 on health and social services research and development work in the field of ethnic minorities.

Social Work Services for Ethnic Minorities in Britain and the USA (written by Cheetham, Department of Social Work, University of Essex, Oxford University, £2.50)



Mr J. Keen, from the Isle of Arran, at Cruft's yesterday handling a pointer, Isle of Arran Larch.

A champion with no chance of winning

Thousands of people converged on Earl's Court, west London, yesterday to begin a three-day ritual of obedience to man's best friend (Tony Samstag writes). It was fitting, in the Chinese Year of the Dog, that for the first time in its history Cruft's Dog Show, the eighty-sixth, should have added and extra day, including the show's first international obedience competition.

The most noteworthy beast yesterday stood no chance of winning anything. It had no breeding to speak of and a happy-go-lucky lolling manner that scores no points in the dour regard of the average connoisseur of borzois, briards and rottweilers. In short, the day's champion was a mongrel, Favour by name.

Little was known about it except that it was on the young side, male, and until a week or so ago homeless. Plucked from the gutter by an animal welfare group, it had been given a three-day crash course in certain modes of behaviour that have about as much to do with the requirements of Cruft's as with a colloquium on trained seals, and was presented yesterday to an instantly adoring public.

Favour is the first of what is hoped will be an army of "hearing aid" dogs for the deaf. Based on an American scheme, using American money under the auspices of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf programme trains dogs of almost any breed or mixture of breeds, preferably strays which would otherwise be destroyed, to respond to up to nine different sounds, from a doorbell to a smoke detector.

Favour had not had long to master what is usually a four-month course. It had been recruited so hastily because quarantine laws did not allow the American sponsors to import fully trained animals for the show. It had mastered the earliest squeaky ball routines, however, and was showing definite promise.

Elsewhere in the vast auditorium it was business as usual: a hubbub of enthusiastic human voices punctuated by surprisingly few yaps, bellows, and whines.

More help sought for ethnic groups

By Pat Healy Social Services Correspondent

Positive discrimination in favour of ethnic minorities to combat disproportionate inequalities is recommended in the report of a social services study.

Mrs Juliet Cheetham, lecturer in applied social studies at Oxford University, says the specific needs of ethnic minorities have been ignored by social workers.

"The fact now has to be faced that in Britain, as in America, black families will be heavily represented among the poorest and most disadvantaged citizens, perhaps for generations", Mrs Cheetham writes.

"The frustrations and bitterness of chronic poverty in a relatively affluent society need no rehearsing and clearly increase the need for social services and social work. The demand however may not increase because of ignorance about available services, distaste for their style of delivery and a reluctance to go outside the family."

Ethnic minorities' special circumstances cannot be served by the usual operation of the welfare services, but need extra resources, Mrs Cheetham says.

She identifies four areas for social services to consider. First, 78 per cent of the black population is concentrated in districts containing the most overcrowded and lowest quality housing.

Second, alienation and a drift to petty delinquency are likely effects of disproportionate unemployment among young blacks. Third, more ethnic minority women with young children go out to work and need substitute care for them; and finally, difficulties with adolescents can be expected because of cultural conflict with the host society.

Mrs Cheetham's study involved visits to 18 social services departments in areas where more than 8 per cent of the population were born in where 20 per cent of live births in 1977 were mothers from the new Commonwealth. Thirty statutory and voluntary agencies in the United States were also visited to provide social services administrators and practitioners with information and ideas for developing services.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Dartmoor governor criticized

Prison officers at Dartmoor have passed a vote of no confidence in Mr Reginald Skelton, the prison governor. (Our Exeter Correspondent writes).

Mr Brian Benwell, chairman of the Prison Officers' Association branch said yesterday that, apart from five abstentions, none of the 150 staff opposed the vote of no confidence in Mr Skelton, who took over in the Autumn.

He also said that there had been drastic changes in disciplinary methods at the prison since Mr Skelton took charge from Mr Colin Keald, his predecessor, who took a strict line.

"Of course we realize the governor must use his discretion when it comes to discipline but this situation is having quite a serious effect on morale among staff", Mr Benwell said.

The Home Office said last night: "If a Prison Officers' Association branch wants to complain about the conduct of a governor there are channels through which such complaints can be formally made and no such complaints have been received in respect of the governor of Dartmoor."

Move to check sex film clubs

A loophole in the law enabling bogus commercial cinema clubs specializing in pornographic films to avoid the cinema licensing requirements came a step nearer to being closed when the Cinematograph Bill was given its second reading in the Commons yesterday. The private member's Bill, introduced by Mr Peter Lloyd, Conservative MP for Fareham, is supported by the Government and has a chance of reaching the statute book.

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Inquiry clears police chief

Mr David Hall, Chief Constable of Humberside, has been cleared of allegations of misconduct after an investigation by another chief constable.

The Humberside Police Authority said yesterday that the allegations had not been substantiated and the conclusion of the investigating officer had been accepted by the police authority.

Action on housing demanded

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

Councils are doing too little to improve the lives of tenants in run-down estates, Sir George Young, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, said yesterday. The cost of some improvements could be recovered in rent from tenants who would occupy empty buildings if they were made more attractive, he said.

Sir George called for help for tenants trapped in undesirable homes which they could not afford to buy. Such homes were often modern estates which sometimes had to be demolished only 20 years after they opened. Such tenants saw their estates "sinking into a spiral of neglect with problems of all-night parties, fouled lifts, graffiti in the lobby and so on."

Sir George told a conference of the Institute of Housing's London branch: "The final solution has already been applied to some blocks which sometimes had to be demolished only 20 years after they opened. Such tenants saw their estates 'sinking into a spiral of neglect with problems of all-night parties, fouled lifts, graffiti in the lobby and so on'."

£210,000 mental health bonus

The government has given to three mental health charities £210,000 as an extra grant for the past financial year (Lucy Hodges writes). Mencap, the Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults, and MIND, the National Association for Mental Health will receive £100,000 each. The remainder will go to the National Schizophrenia Fellowship.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said that £25,000 of the Mental Health Foundation Scheme would help to launch its Homes Foundation Scheme under which parents could provide for the life-time care of mentally handicapped children.

Skeletons found at ancient church site

Workmen digging in the town centre at Stamford, Lincolnshire, have uncovered the site of an ancient church. Excavations have disclosed 10 skeletons a burial ground adjoining St Clements, a pre-Norman conquest church.

Private railway cuts

West Somerset railway, said to be the longest privately owned line in Britain, will cut services by a fifth this summer to try to halt expected losses of £20,000 this year.

All-round talent sought

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The National Maritime Museum has a vacancy for a trainee, but not everyone need apply, for it is for a globe conservator who will need "an exceptional mixture" of talents, according to Miss Gillian Lewis, head of conservation at the museum.

The successful applicant for this post must be a skilled and practical person, with an interest in precision instruments and mathematics and possibly some wood working experience.

The museum's collection of historic globes, dating from the mid-sixteenth century, is one of the largest in the world and includes some rare examples of both terrestrial and celestial globes, many of which have structural damage which requires attention.

Because of this need, and because globe conservation techniques have yet to be fully developed, the museum has decided to establish a research traineeship based at Greenwich.

The idea for the traineeship came from Miss Lewis, and the Leverhulme trust has given the museum a grant to finance the four-year training, amounting to about £30,000. Help has also been received from the Radcliffe Trust and Phillips, the auctioneers, to begin equipping a studio for the treatment of the globes.

The student appointed will serve an apprenticeship, working on paper conservation and structural reinforcement, and studying the history and ancient technology of globes in the Greenwich and other collections. Part of the time will be spent at the conservation department of the National Library of Vienna, which has a large collection of globes and other objects properly restored without losing their historic interest.

Miss Lewis explained that as well as the museum, other bodies such as the National Trust and the Victoria and Albert Museum experienced difficulty in having these impressive objects properly restored without losing their historic interest.

Mortgage cost plea is rejected

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent

The Government is not prepared to intervene in the method proposed by building societies for implementing an Inland Revenue economy measure which, it is claimed, will increase monthly mortgage payments and will have serious effects on young first-time housebuyers.

Mr Jack Bruce-Gardyne, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, told the Commons yesterday that the necessary legislation to carry out the proposals, which will save about 1,000 revenue staff, will be introduced in the Finance Bill after the Budget on March 9.

Mr George Cunningham, Independent Labour MP for Islington South and Finsbury, said during a short debate that the proposals meant that from April 1983, borrowers would pay the net and not the gross amount on loans to the society and the society would recover the tax relief from the revenue.

While welcoming the change, he said some unfortunate consequences would follow if it was carried out in the way that the Government and the societies intended. The burden on borrowers would be made heavier to a significant extent at a time when the borrower was least able to bear it and would impose a considerable extra charge on those buying for the first time.

But Mr Bruce-Gardyne told the House that it would not be for the Government to intervene to regulate the manner in which the societies conducted their business with borrowers. He felt that the new system would be more fair because the tax that the borrower had to pay would no longer be deferred.

The Societies had made clear that if borrowers found themselves in difficulties in the early years of a mortgage because of the new system their local managers would be authorized to help in any way that they could.

THAMES TV CAPTURES YARWOOD

By Kenneth Gosling

After 10 years with the BBC, Mike Yarwood has signed a two-year contract with Thames Television to do six half-hour shows a year.

Thames described the signing yesterday as a welcome and valuable capture. Mr Yarwood, who has made his name with impressions of Sir Harold Wilson, Sir Robin Day and Ian Chiles, said he was pleased to be joining Thames, which would allow him to make programmes for the United States and Australia.

This is the second light entertainment act Thames has attracted from the BBC. The first was Morecambe and Wise. "He will add even more strength to our light entertainment department," Thames said. Mr Yarwood joins the company later this year.

Norwich gives in

Norwich City Council has decided not to ask the House of Lords to overturn a ruling in the Courts in favour of allowing Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, to take over the sale of council houses.

WOMAN OF 86 BEATEN BY RAIDER

A man who inflicted "terrible" injuries on a 86-year-old woman aged 86 in a burglary at her home was jailed for five years by Swindon Crown Court yesterday.

Thomas Lamb Anderson was told by Judge Mark Heywood, "Old ladies maintaining their own separate lives in advanced age in their own homes are going to get the protection of this court. People who go into their homes to burglarize them should know that here they start."

The court was told that Mrs Winifred Leigh, of Trowbridge, Wiltshire, suffered two black eyes, a broken nose and facial bruising when Anderson attacked her home on November 12 last year. She dislocated an elbow when she fell after the attack and it was not until the next afternoon that she was found, by a home help. She was suffering from hypothermia.

Anderson, unemployed, of North Way, Trowbridge, pleaded guilty to the burglary and inflicting grievous bodily harm. His plea of not guilty to robbery was accepted. He was sentenced to four years and a further 12 months consecutively for breaking a community service order imposed for burglary offences.

Mr Patrick Hooton, for the prosecution, said Anderson had been drinking before he entered Mrs Leigh's home and began taking money. He attacked her in a blind panic knocking down a garden fence as he fled.

Mr Alastair Malcolm, for the defence, said Anderson was terrified of returning to Horfield prison, Bristol, where he had been threatened and attacked by other prisoners.



TOMB USED FOR BLACK MAGIC

From Our Correspondent Liverpool

A boy's body was desecrated when a family mausoleum was used for black magic rites, a vicar said yesterday. Candles were lit, fires burnt and an altar set up in the vault at Crossens, near Southport, Merseyside.

The Rev Roy Baker, who found evidence of the ritual at St John's churchyard, said the body was that of Robert Scarisbrick, who died, aged 14, in 1913. It had been well-preserved in a lead coffin encased in two wooden coffins which had been forced open.

Mr Baker said: "The body had been desecrated and indications of sinister intent were found. Human ashes had been scattered from their containers, candles were found on and near the corpse and fires had been lit. In the chapel above the vault a crude altar had been built against the wall of the sanctuary."

"It is more than likely that a crude attempt has been made to meddle with some form of black magic."

Father jailed for crushing baby

A part-time weightlifter who crushed his baby daughter until she screamed, breaking nine of her ribs, was jailed for three years by Southend Crown Court yesterday.

Damon Bines, aged 21, of Goldmer Close, Shoeburyness, Essex, had admitted maliciously inflicting grievous bodily harm on his daughter, Nicky, aged three months, who later died of a head injury which was not the subject of criminal proceedings.

Minister gets on his bike

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Parliamentary Secretary of State for Transport (above), cycles along a converted disused railway which could pave the way for hundreds of miles of cycle paths around Britain.

Mr Clarke took his five-mile ride along a section of the old Bristol to Bath line as consultants recommended that 600 miles of railway could be converted to bicycle tracks by young people on the Youth Opportunities Programme.

Mr Clarke welcomed the plan, but said the Government would not finance it. "Each conversion will depend on local initiative."

BL Sherpa sales boom

Steady sales progress, boosted by two important contracts, have brought a boom to sales of Freight Rover's Sherpa range of light commercial vehicles.

1750.15 Diesel engined vans for the Post Office and 360 Petrol engined chassis cabs for British Telecom have helped Freight Rover to capture 10% of the UK market and bring about a return to full time working.

Export sales of Sherpa have held up well, too. With sales of over 5000 abroad, despite difficult overseas trading conditions.

Freight Rover's Managing Director, Tony Gilroy is confident, thanks to an ambitious product programme for 1982, that this improvement will be continued.

Fighting back

Motor cycle firms take on safety lobby

By Our Political Correspondent

For possible use in the campaign to defend the motor cycle against its critics.

A classic example of the industry's public relations problem came in the Commons this week, when Mr Barry Sheerman, Labour MP for Huddersfield, East, said that "according to many experts, parents who allow their son or daughter to buy a motor cycle are encouraging them to take up a more dangerous pursuit than to be a Spitfire pilot in 1940".

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Under-Secretary for Transport, said the Government was taking the necessary precautions in last year's Transport Act. The measures include the introduction on March 29 of a two-part learners' test, a 125 cc limit on learner riders from next October and two-year provisional licenses which will lapse for one year if riders fail or do not take tests.

The minister said this week: "In terms of casualty figures per mile travelled the figures are improving, but they are still very bad compared with all other vehicles. It is 30 times more dangerous to be a motor cyclist than to drive any other vehicle."

Mr Sheerman, chairman of the parliamentary committee on safety, said yesterday: "The industry is so worried about the safety lobby because the Japanese sausage machine is in full swing; the warehouses are full of bikes."

The industry's concern is reflected in the institute's report for last November, which points out that a national newspaper report on safety, did not help with sales already depressed by about 15 per cent in comparison with last year's figures."

Mr Michael Evans, the author of the report, said that the accident rate had dropped by 20 per cent over the past five years. "It's not all black; it is positive. We want to put this into perspective. There is no attempt to pull the wool over anyone's eyes. We just do not believe the situation is as bad as it is so often portrayed."

The motor cycle industry, with 2,500 dealers and an annual turnover of between £250m and £350m a year, has decided to take a more aggressive line to counteract the Westminster and Whitehall safety lobbies.

A confidential report written for the Institute of Motor Cyclists, a manufacturers' and dealers' public relations organization, discloses that the industry is mounting two separate propaganda exercises.

The institute has commissioned a freelance statistician "to undertake a preliminary study of available statistics and the interpretations that can be used to support our primary contention that motor cycles are considerably safer than the bare statistics suggest."

It has also started a three-month survey of press cuttings involving the death or injury of motor cycle riders or car drivers under the age of 24. Car accident case histories will be compiled and "any deviation from the expected proportions" of death or injury will be noted.

Nigerians of many faiths welcome Pope to Africa

From Godfrey Morrison, Lagos, Feb 12

The Pope, on his first voyage abroad since being shot in St Peter's Square last May, arrived today in Nigeria, on a visit which he has said he hopes will initiate a new era of evangelization.

Though the Roman Catholic community of five million is but a tiny minority in this country of 90 million people, most of whom follow Islam or cling to their traditional animist belief, the Pope is assured of a tumultuous welcome from people of many faiths.

President Shagari, a devout Muslim, welcomed the Pope at the airport. One of his early acts as President was to invite the Roman Catholic leader to Nigeria.

Ever since the 1960s Roman Catholic leaders have expressed hope and faith in their church's future in Africa, a continent where many faiths run deep and the most diverse religions are for many a vital part of daily life.

In October 1964, on the occasion of the beatification of 22 Ugandan martyrs, Pope Paul VI described Africa as "nova patria Christi" — the new homeland of Christ.

Two years ago during his first visit to Africa, when he travelled through Congo, Kenya, Ghana, Upper Volta and Ivory Coast, the present Pope told foreign diplomats in Nairobi: "Is it not comforting to know that the African accepts with his whole being the fact that there is a fundamental relationship between himself and God, the Creator?"

On his present week-long African visit the Pope will spend four days in Nigeria,

visiting the three archdioceses of Lagos, Onitsha and Kaduna before going on to Benin, Nigeria's western neighbour.

He then pays brief visits to Calabar, which like Nigeria has prospered through its oil wealth, and Equatorial Guinea, whose military government is painfully rebuilding the country after the overthrow two years ago of President Nguema.

A highlight of the Pope's Nigerian visit will be an open air mass at Onitsha, eastern Nigeria, heartland of the Ibo people, whose attempt to break away from Nigeria as the separate state of Biafra led to civil war.

It is in this area that is to be found the highest concentration of Nigeria's Roman Catholics and what is believed to be the largest seminary in the world, Enugu-Ikpa, Ekpeke, where about 700 Nigerians are training for the priesthood.

The federal side in the civil war accused the international Catholic relief organizations of favouring Biafra, but such rancorous memories have largely evaporated, and the Pope can expect another enthusiastic welcome in Kaduna, in the largely Muslim north.

At an open air mass there he will ordain 90 priests, the largest being pronounced not by the normal ringing of bells but by the blowing of horns and the beating of drums.

In recent years the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant churches (whose 11 million adherents in Nigeria are double those of the Catholic Church) have increasingly tried to incor-

porate local culture and custom into their services.

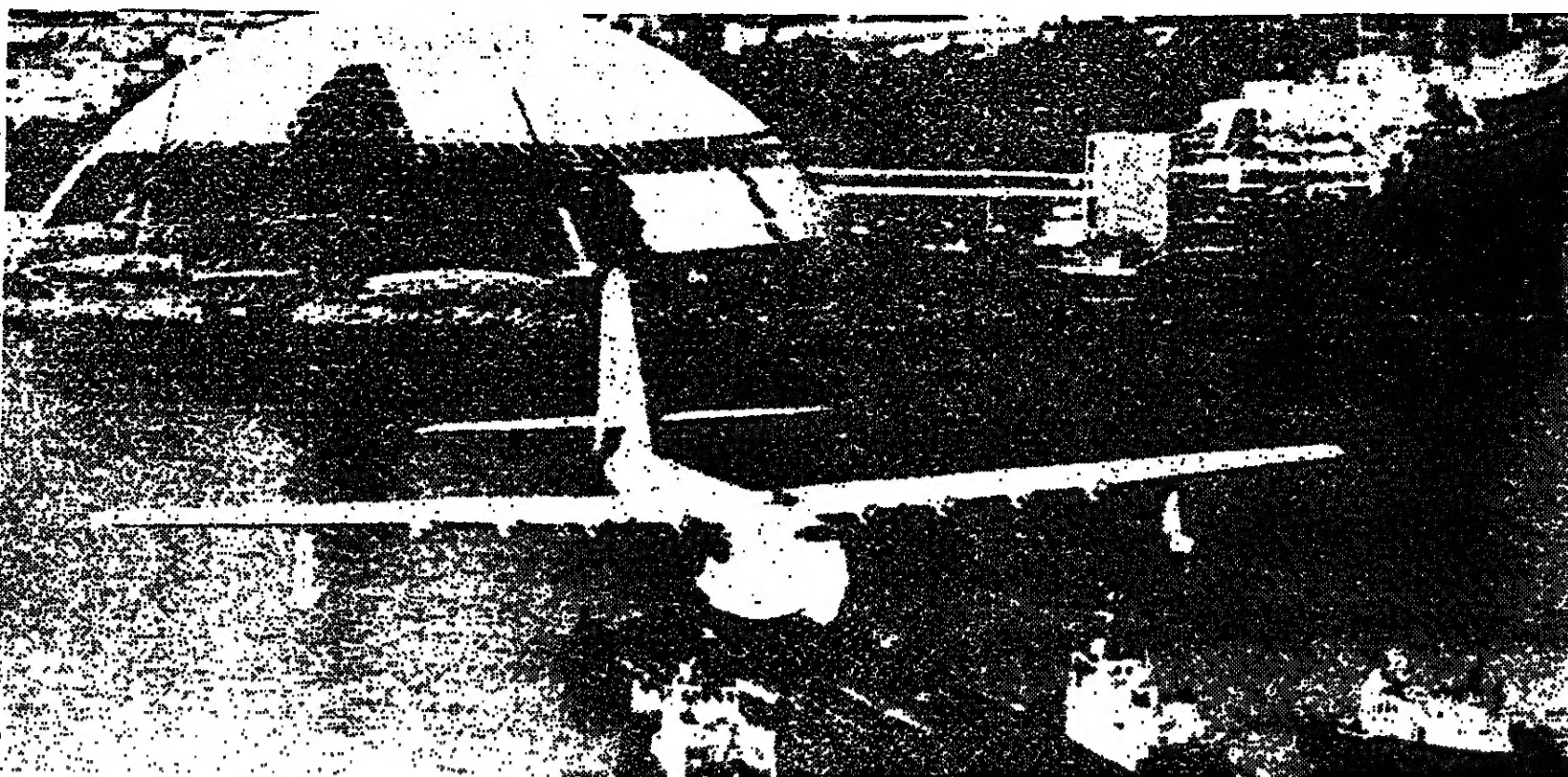
This is partly due to a positive desire to root Christianity more firmly in local soil, and partly as a response to the growing appeal of all manner of breakaway sects which have sprung up in many parts of Africa.

Mr Anthony Okojie, the Archbishop of Lagos, said in a recent interview that one of the biggest problems his church faced was "the fundamentalist approach to the Bible being given by some of our Christian brothers. In some rural areas especially the use these sects make of Christian symbols and sacraments, deliberately mixed with their (witchdoctor) practices, confuses our people".

The Nigerian press has extended a warm welcome to the Pope, with many newspapers publishing special supplements. Yesterday, a columnist in the *Daily Times*, in welcoming the Pope, said his church's attitude would be changed in Africa if it changed its attitude to birth control and enforced celibacy of priests.

Meanwhile, *Lagos Week-end*, a weekly newspaper carried as its main front-page story today a report that the Enugu chapter of the Nigerian Union of Prostitutes had urged its members to instruct the Pope when he visits their city.

A spokesman for the union said that because of their belief in God's readiness to forgive all sinners, they were all "groping out to welcome the Pontiff and receive his blessings", the newspaper said.



New roost: The Hughes flying boat Spruce Goose, that became airborne only once in the 1940s, taking a leisurely journey across the harbour at Long Beach, California, perched on a barge. Sightseers on board the liner Queen Mary, in the background, crowded the decks to watch the move into the aluminium display dome.

Dacca Cabinet cut from 42 to 18

Dacca, Feb 12. — President

Abdus Sattar of Bangladesh today named a slimmed-down Cabinet to replace the 42 ministers he dismissed last night as part of a campaign to rid the administration of corruption and incompetence.

The new 18-member Council of Ministers, mostly comprising members who were dismissed cabinet, honours Mr Sattar's promise to set up a much smaller Cabinet.

President Sattar defended the dismissals in a broadcast last night, saying he had grown to doubt ministers' honesty, integrity and sincerity. "Most of those who sit at the helm of state affairs have failed to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the people and I admit that consequently the country and the nation face a serious crisis", he said.

President Sattar retained the Defence portfolio and Mr Azizur Rahman, the Prime Minister, Mr Shamsul Haq, the Foreign Minister, were returned to their posts.

The President was elected last November after the assassination in May of President Zia ur-Rahman by dissident military officers.

Terrorists end truce in Corsica

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Feb 12.

Violence on an unprecedented scale erupted in Corsica last night, nine months after the Corsican Nationalists had decreed a pre-election truce on their terrorist activities.

For the first time in such attacks, a member of the Foreign Legion, serving in the island, was shot, and two others were seriously injured. In about 10 other attacks in different parts of the island, public buildings and private property were damaged by explosives.

The FNLC, the extremist Corsican National Liberation Front, claimed responsibility for all these outrages. In a tract distributed in Bastia during the night it maintained that they were not a breach of the truce but a "warning" to the new Socialist Government.

"Concrete political acts wiping out the symbols of colonialism should have been announced, with their implementation well under way. There has been nothing of the sort. The Front could wait no longer. The new Government must rapidly acknowledge the national rights of the Corsican people."

Among the measures demanded are the dismantling of the clan system, the "rehabilitation of Corsican language and culture, the end of colonialism and the departure of colonists" from the mainland of North Africa.

The attacks on three members of the Foreign Legion, of which two residents are stationed on the island, and on four gendarmes under construction, as well as on farms and villas belonging to "outsiders", were deliberately timed to coincide with the visit to the island of three Government Ministers — those of Defence, Transport and Agriculture, who announced new credits for the cattle-breeding and wine industries, and for the modernization of the railways.

They also came shortly after the voting by Parliament, at the beginning of this month, of a special administrative status for Corsica. This gives it a wider measure of autonomy than it has enjoyed since 1968, when it became a part of France.

M. Gaston Defferre, the Minister of the Interior, and principal champion of the new statute, said that "no Government can allow itself to be dominated by violence, but one can imagine that those who are against the implementation of the new statute have an interest in such violent acts."

They will certainly strengthen the arguments of those who are against the implementation of the new statute, so I give them a few more days," one banker said. "I'm not running a bank any more, I'm running a collection agency."

Accompanying this has been the collapse of the Costa Rican currency, the

Costa Rica's debts New President has to tread carefully

From Paul Elman, San José, Feb 12

The banker was exhausted and exasperated after a day of knocking on doors trying to collect at least some of the money owed to his bank.

"The next time I'm going to have to take a cricket bat, knuckledusters and steel-tipped shoes", he remarked ruefully.

Although his reaction was exaggerated, his experience was typical of the difficulties confronting representatives of 150 Western banks, who are hoping that the election last Sunday of Señor Luis Alberto Monge to the Costa Rican presidency will lead to the repayment of some of this tin Central American country's staggering debts.

Costa Rica, the only functioning democracy in a region torn by civil strife, has gone bankrupt in spectacular fashion, leaving its two million inhabitants with the prospect of seeing their standard of living, once

colour, which has fallen in value against the United States dollar to a fifth of its level a year ago, the effect of this has yet to be felt fully by the population and San José remains an oasis of tranquillity, a gentle, cheerful city without the brooding menace which pervades cities like San Salvador.

However, in real terms the per capita income of Costa Rica now stands at only \$525 a year, compared with the \$2,564 the Government claims on the basis of figures which do not allow for the dramatic fall in the value of the national currency.

Señor Monge, with all the other candidates in the election, laid the blame for the country's problems on the outgoing President, Señor Rodrigo Carazo, who refused obstinately to accept conditions laid down by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for providing short-term aid.

Señor Carazo, whom one Western ambassador here privately called a "bone-head", accused the IMF of trying to dismantle Costa Rica's welfare schemes, which are very advanced by Central American standards.

President-elect Monge has told his countrymen that they will have to accept a reduced standard of living but apart from promising a "100-day emergency programme" after he takes office on May 8, has provided no details of what he has in mind.

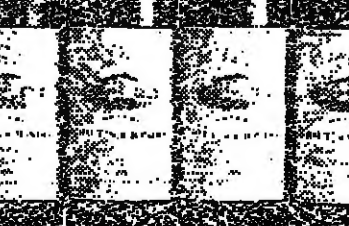
Creditor banks are concerned that Señor Monge will not go far enough to reestablish Costa Rica's standing in the world financial community. They note that the country has broken all eight of the agreements it has negotiated with the IMF since 1952, three of them within the past two years.

Some Western diplomats, however, feel concern that the new President may be forced too far down the road to financial stability and could be confronted with an explosion of social discontent which would leave Costa Rica vulnerable to the left-wing and right-wing extremism which plagues the rest of Central America.

The 60 per cent of the population which earns less than 3,000 colones a month has already seen the value of this income fall in 12 months from \$340 to \$71. "Soon they'll hardly figure in the economy at all," one local financial expert commented.

The past 12 months have seen the first signs of terrorism, puny stuff in comparison to the bloodshed of El Salvador and Guatemala but an ominous portent for a country which hoped it could escape the Latin American disease of political violence by abolishing its armed forces 30 years ago.

Last Sunday's elections saw voters once again reject extremists of both the left and right.



Señor Monge: Mandate for sweeping reforms

the highest in Central America, plunging to among the lowest.

In terms of hard-currency indebtedness, Costa Rica now owes more per capita than any other country in the world with the exception of Israel. Its total external debt, including the public and private sectors, has soared from \$622m in 1976 to \$4,000m. The Government was forced to default last September on all interest and principal payments, with the exception of a few soft loans provided to buy food.

Bankruptcies in the private sector are escalating rapidly, with the result that unemployment, now at 10 per cent, is expected to reach 20 per cent within the next six months.

"More and more, when I go to visit businessmen about their debts they offer me the keys to the factory. I don't want to take over their businesses, so I give them a few more days," one banker said. "I'm not running a bank any more, I'm running a collection agency."

Accompanying this has been the collapse of the Costa Rican currency, the

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Tanker cuts power in Istanbul

Ankara. — Port authorities in Istanbul, who have come to view anxiously the transit passage of every Soviet vessel through the Bosphorus, saw their worst fears materialize when a Russian tanker bound for the Black Sea ran aground on the Asian side of the busy strait, severing underwater power cables (Rasit Gurdilek writes).

The accident, attributed to strong currents, is the fifth within a week involving Soviet vessels. The authorities blame the incidents on the refusal of Soviet captains to take Turkish pilots on board.

A solution would require revision of the 1936 Montreux Treaty, a step which, for the time being, Turkey is reluctant to initiate.

South Africans mourn Aggett

Johannesburg. — More than 1,000 white, nearly all of them white, crowded into Johannesburg city hall to mourn the death of Dr Neil Aggett, the young white trade unionist found hanged in his prison cell a week ago. The meeting was organized by the opposition Progressive Federal Party.

All present stood while Bishop Desmond Tutu read out the names of more than 40 South Africans who have died in the last 20 years while being detained under the security laws.

Boxing chief denies charge

Mexico City. — Señor José Sulaiman, president of the World Boxing Council, was formally charged with illegal possession of valuable archaeological artefacts, a spokesman in the Attorney General's office said.

Señor Sulaiman, who was detained on Tuesday, denied smuggling and said he was conserving the objects "because I am enamoured of my people, my culture and my ancestors."

'Army mutiny' in Somalia

Nairobi. — A large-scale army mutiny occurred in northern Somalia at the end of last month and fighting between loyalist forces and mutineers is continuing, according to Somali dissident circles here.

The rising, said to have followed the execution of 11 government officials, including some officers, split the loyalties of army garrisons, but Government troops have since recaptured at least six camps. Casualties are put at 85 dead and 105 wounded.

Kissinger is out of danger

New York. — Dr Henry Kissinger, the former American Secretary of State, was recovering normally in hospital in Boston after heart surgery on Wednesday. "The main risk is over," a hospital bulletin said. Dr Kissinger, aged 58, will be moved today to a private room from the intensive care unit of Massachusetts General Hospital.

US offends Israelis over Jordan arms

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Feb 12

Less than a month after the healing of the American-Israeli rift over the annexation of the Golan Heights, relations between the two countries are facing a new crisis over potential American sales of sophisticated weapons to Jordan, a country which still maintains a state of war with Israel.

The Israeli Government has demanded urgent clarification from Washington about reports that the United States hopes to sell King Hussein F16 fighter aircraft and mobile Hawk missile batteries. A senior official in Jerusalem today expressed astonishment at the proposed deal, which he claimed would significantly affect Israel's qualitative balance in the Middle East arms field.

Last night Major General Aharon Yariv, former chief of military intelligence, gave a warning that acquisition by Jordan of the American-made weapons might, in certain circumstances, prompt Israel to launch a preventive strike.

He said that the stationing of Hawk missiles in the Jordan Valley would pose a threat to the Israeli Air Force which would be difficult to tolerate.

The Israeli Government has also been both angered and concerned at reports that Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, combined his trip to Jordan with remarks to reporters, "albeit made under the convenient guise of official", suggesting that the Reagan Administration

planned to toughen its policy toward Israel.

The latest division between Israel and the United States follows closely on what are understood to have been extremely stringent American warnings to Israel about the consequences of it launching any new military operation across the Lebanese border.

The American attitude, combined with recent severe weather, is claimed by many military experts here to have at least temporarily thwarted a planned invasion on a larger scale than the 1978 Litani operation.

Conditions in the rest of the country were reported calm and firmly under control. Foreign reporters had been promised by Mr Ahmed Iskander Ahmed, the Minister of Information, that they would be able to visit the besieged city "when the last criminal of the Muslim Brotherhood has been arrested".

Beirut. As the siege of the central city of Hama continued today, Syria went to the emergency meeting of Arab foreign ministers in Tunis to demand collective Arab action against the United States for supporting Israel and allegedly trying to destabilize the Syrian Government (Tawfik Mishlawrites).

Reports from Damascus said troops and tanks had sealed off the city and army patrols conducting mopping up operations were searching for members of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood.

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Chad's leader rejects OAU ceasefire call

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi, Feb 12

President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad, left here today declaring that he would not accept the ultimatum given to him yesterday by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to halt the fighting between rival groups in Chad and prepare for fresh elections.

The OAU's standing committee on Chad, attended by the presidents of Nigeria, Guinea, Zambia, Zaire, the Central African Republic and Kenya, and by ministers from several other countries, yesterday called for a constitutional and political settlement in Chad.

It also decided that the OAU's peace-keeping force now in the country must pull

out by the end of June, and that President Goukouni would negotiate with his opponents to secure a ceasefire by February 28.

The Chad delegation was not present when the OAU conference passed its resolution. In a statement issued later, the delegation said it regarded the resolution as "null and void" because the OAU standing committee had no power to take any such action.

In a press statement the delegation said it had withdrawn from the conference, but added the President Goukouni had held talks with several of the delegates, rejecting their demand that the country did not recognize the OAU committee.

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Reagan's 'new federalism'

Testing the ground on Iowa's farms

From Nicholas Ashford, Des Moines, Iowa, Feb 12



Governor Ray: Support with reservations

about federalism while still Governor of California. Governor Ray also likes new federalism.

"The President is really proposing what governors have long asked for," he said in an interview with *The Times*. "Our forefathers did not mean for us to have a strong centralized government that encroaches into almost every element of our lives."

However, although Governor Ray gives his wholehearted support to the principle of new federalism, he is concerned about details in the President's plan under which responsibility for 43 federal programmes would be handed over to the states.

One of his reservations is about cost. By his calculation the plan for the federal Government to take on the

state's Medicaid costs, in 1984, would be \$1.5 billion. Assuming responsibility for food stamps and aid to dependent families, would leave Iowa \$30m (£16m) a year worse off. The White House, using a separate set of figures, disagrees.

Similarly, despite the President's pledge that there would be "no winners and no losers" among the 50 states involved, Governor Ray fears Iowa could end up worse off than the oil-rich states in the South, or the heavily industrialized ones to the North.

However, he is confident that these matters can be worked out in the dialogue which the President has promised to have with state and local officials.

Mr Delwyn Stromer, the Speaker of the Iowa House of Representatives, is equally enthusiastic about the President's plan. "This is the first time we have had a President who is doing exactly what he promised during his election campaign," he said.

Simply by taking over certain programmes from Washington, the state will be able to save 15 per cent on its annual budget, he contends. And the state will also benefit from the President's tax cuts, now coming into effect.

"If the President succeeds, the process of socialization which has been taking place in the United States can be stabilized and even reduced," Mr Stromer said.

The main problem confronting the President as he tries to promote new federalism is its extended time-

frame. It is not due to get under way until 1984 and does not address the country's immediate economic problems. In the words of Governor Ray, "at the moment we are trying to work out how we are going to survive this year."

There is general agreement that economic issues — unemployment, big interest rates and low farm prices — and not new federalism will remain uppermost in people's minds until the November mid-term elections.

When President Reagan arrived in Des Moines on Tuesday, the local newspaper carried a report saying that farm income was expected to be lower this year than at any time since the Depression.

"At the moment it is costing me \$2.80 (£1.50) to produce a bushel of corn, yet I am being paid only \$2.30 for it," Mr Wayne Jensen said. He farms 1,200 acres to the west of Des Moines. "No one can go on like that. The interest rates are killing us because we have to borrow heavily to pay for seeds, fertilizers and equipment."

He predicted a spate of bankruptcies among Iowa farmers over the next six weeks.

Underlying this concern about deteriorating economic conditions lies an all-pervasive fear of inflation. "If it gets any worse, it is necessary to impose a grain embargo on the Soviet Union. This would be catastrophic for a state which produces 1,100 million bushels of grain a year."



A TIMES EXCLUSIVE
Featuring a case of excellent 1978 Claret. Only £33.
And only in The Times next Monday.



Michael Winner, unabashed by the furore over his latest film, describes his jousts with censors on both sides of the Atlantic

My curious battles over Death Wish II



Charles Bronson and Michael Winner making *Death Wish II* cut and come again

We have a saying in our business: "Every film is a great success until it's released." On that basis I'd be sitting on a hot property. In 1973, after five years of hawking round all the movie companies a script called *Death Wish*, and being rejected. I was driving one day to Kennedy Airport with Charles Bronson, the American actor with whom I'd just finished another film, when he said: "What shall we do next?"

"Well," I said tentatively, "there's this script called *Death Wish* that's awfully good. It's about a man whose family are mugged. He goes out on the streets shooting muggers and becomes a national hero."

"I'd like to do that," said Charlie.

"The film?" I said hopefully.

"No," he said, "shoot muggers."

We did the film, and it was a sensation, grossing over \$50m at the box office, and even appearing in a few American critics' 10-best-of-the-year lists.

Seven years or so later — early in 1981 — a couple of young Israeli producers who were trying to break into Hollywood were buying the rights to the characters from the original producer, Dino De Laurentiis, and I found myself whisked to Los Angeles to make the sequel. I was shown into an office with a stunning view of downtown Hollywood, and the gently rising hills behind crowned by the white "HOLLYWOOD" sign in wooden letters. One of the producers came in.

"You're going home," he said. "Dino's changed his mind, he's not going to sell."

Seeing a rather amusing time and a lot of money disappearing before my eyes, I reached for the phone. After five minutes of pleading with Dino De Laurentiis the deal was re-instated, and we made *Death Wish II*.

At the beginning of November, 1981, I was about to hand over the successful, though unreleased, movie to those who had bought it. By a series of deals that are everyday parlance in Hollywood, the young producers had sold the film to Columbia Pictures for release outside the United States, and to Filmways for America, and were already in profit.

I went with some trepidation to a screening room in the Beverly Hills offices of Filmways. The company chiefs walked in, were handed pastri sandwiches and pickles, and prepared to see the end product. After the film the head of Filmways, a jolly man called George, turned to me.

"We've got a problem," he said. "It'll never pass the censor."

That had never occurred to me. It was true that near the beginning of both *Death Wish* and *Death Wish II* a member of the hero's family is raped, thus causing him to seek revenge on the criminal society in general. Although the rape had been unpleasant in the first film, we had no trouble; and although it was even a bit stronger in the sequel, it did not seem to me any more than the adult poppers on the screen should be permitted to see. It didn't represent, in my view, any sort of new high (or low, according to which way you look at it) in cinematic violence.

I reckoned without awareness that both in America and England censorship, far

from getting more liberal, has become far tighter.

I went back to England, and a week later received a list of cuts required by the American censor. There is a big difference between the system of censorship in America and England. In America almost anything, certainly including my film, will be passed for adult viewing with an X certificate. But, unlike England, where the X certificate is generally accepted for exhibition, in America X films are limited to a few cinemas.

A few days later I saw the film again, well cut down. Again he rejected it. My producers instructed me to get straight back to Hollywood and sit on top of everybody until the film was passed. Wearily I dragged myself on to the plane for another eleven-hour flight to Los Angeles, the town of which Orson Welles once said: "Every street looks like the road to the airport."

Another cut of the film. Another rejection. Still Mr. Heffner refused to give so much as a glimmer of what he actually wanted. However, he did come up with a very strange statement: "I hope you're aware" (in his usual bad-tempered way) "that we only see a film four times. Then we have to rest for thirty days."

"You what?" — "We have to take thirty days off, otherwise we get immune to what we see. We need to cleanse our minds."

Jolly George, the head of Filmways, our distributor, stepped in: "Let me see the film before you re-submit it," he said.

Back to England, and more cuts. On December 17 George called: "Your new version's still too strong. Tell you what — I shall go through this with you in the cutting room, frame by frame. Together. Report here for work on December 29."

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I should mention here that Filmways were going through what is known as "a little trouble". They owed, according to which report you believed, either \$30 million or \$100 million. However, there was no shortage of people wishing to buy the company, and I knew it was Hollywood when, on my return, I found they had moved to enormous new offices.

"George isn't here," said the receptionist. "He's not coming in."

He turned up next day, still cheerful, and said: "I trust you, Michael, you do the re-cut, show it to me when you've done it."

The film went to and fro, well over the four times the censor said he would see it before his thirty-day rest. He even got so fed up with it, he gave us the most precise instructions as to what should be cut. We got our R ratings.

Thank goodness, I thought, that's my dealing with censors over for the next few years. I had reckoned without the English censor, James Ferman.

Compared to the English censor, rude Richard and jolly George are the epitome of America. James Ferman, once boasted to me how he cut five frames of Robert Shaw being eaten by a shark in *Jaws* from all two hundred and fifty minutes, reducing to gothic British cinema. Five frames of film last one fifth of a second.

Death Wish II went to the British censor on December 18. There followed a long silence, even though we had told him the picture had to be released in 85 cinemas on February 11, and the mechanics of making cuts, re-laying and re-recording sound, and manufacturing the prints, required a speedy response.

It took him three weeks and four days even to give us his list of cuts. When I complained, he said, "When you submit a difficult film you should leave yourself more time."

"Why should it take over three-and-a-half weeks to see a 90-minute film?" I asked. No answer.

Again the film went in and out like a yo-yo. But there was one big difference for England we were requesting an X certificate, a rating permitting only people over 18 to see the picture. Mr. Ferman insisted on cuts in the version passed for children in America. I explained that the film had been passed totally uncut for exhibition to adults in France, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Spain and other countries. "Our standards," he said, "are different."

The fact is that in the seven years Mr. Ferman has been in office other countries have liberalized censorship; we have removed stage censorship completely, but for films, Britain remains one of the most censored countries in the world.

Did that not give Ferman some concern, I asked. "It gives me concern if you formulate it that way," he replied.

We were finally handed our X certificate on a massively cut version of the film one week before it was due to open, six weeks after it had first been submitted.

I'd make a family film next, if only to avoid having to speak to censors. The only trouble is, I have made four family films. All but one lost money.

Report here for work on December 29."

Report here for work on December 29."

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Report here for work on December 29."

An invitation to dine with the Great European Eaters



Gert von Paczensky He takes along a wine thermometer



Robert Courtine Fastidious rather than self-indulgent

The Great European Eaters belong to a special class: they are few in number, and their lives are an endless tour, not for their own pleasure but for the benefit of others. They are to food and restaurants what dramatic critics are to the stage. As one of them once explained, they are not gourmets: "Gourmets only eat the best; we eat anything".

Among those whose research and writings go beyond their own frontiers are a Frenchman, Robert Courtine, and a West German, Gert von Paczensky. Today we begin a series of articles in which these two Great European Eaters describe their experience of restaurants in Britain, on independent tours conducted at the invitation of *The Times*.

M. Courtine — who opens the series — is "la Reyniere" of *Le Monde*, an erudite and literary man who follows in that great French tradition which allies good food with good

writing. At 71 he is slim and elegant, the portrait of the fastidious, not the self-indulgent eater. The enemy of heaviness in food — he despises the potato — also the modern turkey, which he has described as having the taste of old zouave, with

a certain fibrous quality, and just a distant hint of mothballs. Yet the severity of his judgments is tempered by an extreme courtesy.

Courtine's many books on food include *Bakac à table*, *Zola à table*, 100 *Marvelles*

de la Cuisine française, and *Les Recettes de Mme Margret* secrets of the recorded, favourite dishes of the celebrated detective.

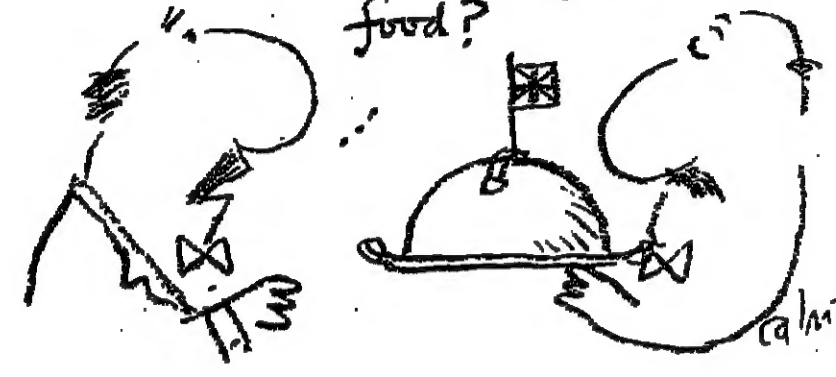
Herr von Paczensky ("Pacz" or "Patch" to his friends) is one of the country's most versatile and controversial journalists, who brings to the subject of food the same enthusiasm and sometimes indignation that informs his political writing. He has written a small book on how to complain in restaurants. He is an avid documenter of a meal, with pocket tape recorder, wine thermometer and watch; he does not like to be rushed.

Thirty years ago foreign correspondent in London and Paris for *Die Welt*, he has since been a pioneering television producer in current affairs magazine editor, and television administrator; he is now a freelance producer and writer. His first article will appear next week.

Robert Courtine at Locketts, Marsham Street, London, SW1

Claret and division bells

What kind of Frenchman is it that likes English food?



An invitation to pass judgment on English cooking in Britain's greatest newspaper is not something to be taken lightly. One must bring to the job an unprejudiced mind and that taste for conviviality which is a mark of the civilised societies. As I have often said: French cooking is not what people say about it, the best in the world, but, without question, the most varied. An important nuance!

All great peoples, countries and races have their own styles of cooking and each has great dishes. English cooking is already familiar to me. Not so much because I find there our *boudin* turned pudding and our bacon of former times which we call *lard* today, or even the boiled leg of mutton from Yvetot in Normandy, which is a reflection of its sister dish across the Channel. But rather because of its style, which was that of genuine medieval cooking, a splendid era before the Latin invasion of the Renaissance.

Cooking embraces folklore, ancestral memories, wisdom and tradition. Having taken up the invitation to come to England, I was pleased to be back amongst those aspects of your civilisation, for cooking — fashionable absurdities excepted — can evoke them all.

So, English cooking exists. I met it first of all at Locketts. This is a very old establishment. And a restaurant such as I like, that is, peaceful, comfortable, where one feels at ease. I learned that it was part of a chain (Berkmann), but it is not at all a chain-type restaurant, with standardized cooking.

I like its menu, embellished with gourmet quotes from the past. I noticed in London that the cover charge (abolished in France) still stands, that service varies from 12 to 15 per cent and that VAT (in France VAT is always in

cluded in the prices) is often added to the bill. When everything is totted up, it all comes to the same thing: there is a country without taxes?

Because of its location but also because of an indefinable air of discretion and decorum, Locketts is the MP's restaurant. I was startled at 2.30 pm to hear a bell — the Division Bell — summoning to their legislative duties members whose spirits had been raised by good food and drink. In France near the National Assembly there are two restaurants patronised by our deputies, *Chez Marius* (rue de Bourgogne) and *La Solenne* (rue de Valenciennes), but they lack a direct link to Parliament.

At Locketts I treated myself to Stilton soup, followed by soft herring roes with mustard sauce, excellent vegetables (I like the abundance of vegetables one finds in your restaurants, a mark of respect towards the kitchen garden) and an apple.

On the subject of apples, in shops and restaurants I did

not come across a single Golden Delicious. Bravos! These beautiful, ubiquitous Golden Delicious which hold sway in France are the terror of the gourmet. I was delighted by the little English apples, red, acid, perhaps less presentable, but how much better.

The bill came to £31.75, including a bottle of claret. This is about the same as Paris prices.

As we felt like some exercise, my companion and I made our way along the Thames from Westminster to the Tower. A superb walk, enhanced by all the reds of autumn, during which I discovered the new City heliport and the (since abandoned) fish market. I admired the Beefeaters without being sure whether their name comes from the French word "buffetier" or from the fact that they used to be responsible for tasting the King's meat before it was served to him.

That day the Master Chef's Institute was holding a reception at the Tower Hotel attended by several London cooks. I met friends there

with glasses in their hands. The conversation was naturally about cooking. French cooks have always been renowned here, from Escoffier, Herbolle, to his *Ecu de France*, and Boulestin.

To eat French food today one goes to Le Gavroche or Le Crillon, to Le Poulbot or Le Suquet. However, I was already going over in my mind what I would order when I next dined at Locketts: potted shrimps as an overture (hors d'oeuvre), should be to a dinner what the overture is to an opera, the menu reminds us, Ayresbury duckling (with its apple sauce) and Stilton. I must confess to a passion for Stilton, which I consider one of the great cheeses of the world, along with Swiss cheddar, camembert and French goats' cheeses. In France we say that the *pika* (a pays de Loire sauce of melted butter, shallots and vinegar), I would (almost) say that Stilton was created to accompany a vintage port.

Next Saturday: Gert von Paczensky at Inverloch Castle, Invernesshire.

Geoffrey Smith

More leading questions for the SDP

Perhaps it was inevitable that the Social Democrats should have an inclination to constitution mongering. They have some distinguished lawyers in their ranks and the party was born out of conflict over a party constitution.

It was disillusionment at the incessant wrangling over the Labour Party constitution that provoked the initial breakaway, and the occasion for the split was provided by the decision of the Wembley special conference to change the method of electing Labour's leader in a way that was unacceptable to the embryo Social Democrats.

So it is hardly surprising that the SDP should now be going to some trouble to show that where Labour failed it can succeed in devising arrangements that will be a model of order and the embodiment of democracy. Not only did discussion of its draft constitution have a prominent place in the rolling SDP conference last October, but today and tomorrow the party is holding a special constitutional convention in London.

Their days in the Labour Party should, however, have taught the Social Democrats two lessons about party constitutions. No matter how fascinating the exercise may be to the frustrated lawyers who abound in most political parties, it is dangerous for any party to become too embroiled in argument over its own internal processes; and the arguments over legal niceties generally relate to much deeper conflicts.

A little while ago it seemed that the debate over how the parliamentary leader should be elected would represent a

critical conflict over the disposition of power within the SDP. If the decision was placed in the hands of the parliamentary party alone then the centrist Mr. Roy Jenkins would be chosen. If every member of the party was to have a vote then the office would go to the more radical Mrs. Shirley Williams. But it no longer seems that the method of election will affect the outcome. Provided that he is an MP when the time comes — which really means provided that he wins at Hillhead — it is now generally assumed that Mr. Jenkins will be elected under either system.

But the dispute over the method of election is nonetheless more than a technicality. It relates to the balance of strength between the parliamentary party and the party in the country. This is a question that to a greater or lesser extent bedevils all British parties these days because it is no longer generally accepted that the chance to elect a new government once every four years or so is a sufficient expression of the democratic principle. There is a desire for greater influence over political leaders than that provides.

In a country whose politics is based upon parties it is natural to think of making the politicians more accountable to their parties. But that can too easily mean making them accountable to the party activists, those zealots who do most of the local work in most parties but who are by their nature unrepresentative of the wider public whose attitude to politics is distinctly cool. The Social

Democrats experienced the danger of this course only too keenly in their Labour days.

If that trap is to be avoided there are two alternatives. One is to concentrate on making political leaders more accountable to Parliament in the belief that MPs, being directly responsible to the electorate and exposed to the pressures of discontented voters, are between them more likely than the members of any party to reflect

public opinion. The other is to broaden democracy within a party so that decisions are taken by all members and not just the activists.

During most of their Labour years the leading Social Democrats put the emphasis on preserving the authority of MPs, but in their last struggles within that party some of them swung to the alternative of broad party democracy where by the leader would be elected on the basis of one-member-one-vote.

It is this choice which is now being examined afresh in the calmer waters of the SDP. There are respectable democratic arguments on both sides, though I would favour putting power in the

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It is this choice which is now being examined afresh in the calmer waters of the SDP. There are respectable democratic arguments on both sides, though I would favour putting power in the

hands of Parliament. Where decisions are naturally taken by the party in the country — as in the case of the SDP — it is right that a voice should be given not just to the activists but to all members.

But I do not believe that the members of any party are a good guide to public opinion in general or that judges between rivals for leadership as those who serve with them in the House of Commons.

The dilemma over the balance of power between the party in Parliament and in the country is reflected not only in the argument over how to elect the leader but also over how to make policy. The Social Democrats have unhappy memories of the battle over responsibility for the Labour manifesto.

So the draft SDP constitution proposes an elaborate system of checks and balances.

The final authority on policy will rest with the Council for Social Democracy, on which MPs are likely to be in a minority. But the council will act on the basis of draft statements put before it by the national committee's policy sub-committee, on which MPs are likely to have a small majority. Detailed rules are offered to govern the relationship of the council to the policy sub-committee.

At the same time it is declared that the parliamentary party "must have full regard to the election programme and all statements of policy adopted by the council, but SDP Members of

Parliament shall not be mandated nor subject to direction or control by any organ of the SDP".

It is all neat, logical and too cumbersome by half — a reminder that the art of politics should not be confused with the practice of the law.

The good lawyer provides for every eventuality; the politician who tries to do so ties his feet in ribbons. It is desirable that more women should be elected to Parliament, but to insist they form a certain proportion of the short list in every constituency is quite the wrong way to go about it. Such a rigid rule is unlikely to lead to more women actually being selected, because it will be too easily assumed that the women are on the list as token, not on merit.

It would obviously be undesirable to allow anyone to hedge his bets by being a member of both Labour and the SDP. But to specify that those who are members of any other political party in the United Kingdom cannot be members of the SDP is to prohibit joint membership with the Liberals.

As Mr. Malcolm Matson, a member of both parties at the moment, argues in a persuasive memorandum which was reported in *The Times* earlier this week, such a provision will make it harder for the Liberals and Social Democrats to draw closer together — which would seem to be a strange way to further the alliance.

The Social Democrats might reflect that the crucial test of any constitution is that it should be consistent with the party's broad political purposes.

Only the most outstanding women are designated steaming haybags. Not many people know that, and it is probably news to you as much as it is to Bergerac of Bath and The Mighty Wabler, neither of whom said it.

If, on the other hand, it registers the slightest glimmer of meaning, you are clearly the lucky target for one of Cupid's paper aeroplanes that fly their secret missions down several columns of *The Times* today. And if you can decode the message but not the sender, then the mystery is that much sweeter, is it not?

Love letters, although there are many fewer enigmatic *billets doux* than last year's romantic blatherings of more than 2,200 messages. But the remains of St. Valentine are unlikely to be turning in the sarcophagus where they repose in a church down a back street of Dublin; the reason for a lighter load this year, we are assured, is that the day itself is Sunday, when these columns remain firmly closed, even for the most ardently unrequited lover.

A gallop through he eye-straining print suggests that, despite the Sexual Relations Act or whatever it was that gave women the misguided impression of equality, it is still the male who pursues the female. Those cryptic missives which reveal the gender of the sender are overwhelmingly from men; those from women are not only fewer, but plainer and bordering on the comprehensible.

Or perhaps all the pursuing women hide behind an obnoxious anonymity. Who would dare guess at the sex of Posthuma, Poodle Poon or Poppy Crimblecrump Plumbum?

Few give any clue that they are messages of reassurance between husband and wife, unless Fishface is wed to

Fishface sends his undying devotion



Donkeydraws. Bent Finger probably is not he has seen Hoppy Birdie across a crowded platform in those distant days when trains ran, but some relationships, of whatever legal status, are stable: Mistoffles, a star of last year's pages, is back again plighting his troth to Mrs. Mistetoe. Of course, she may be the next-door neighbor.

As ever, lovers retreat to the secret world of the nursery, teddy bears talking to each other in the language of poodlekins; the once-fashionable Miss Piggy seems on the wane. But in that nursery, what secret scenarios must be dreamed of; there should be a Book of Posthuma, Poodle Poon or Poppy Crimblecrump Plumbum?

Few give any clue that they are messages of reassurance between husband and wife, unless Fishface is wed to

and the frisson of delight they doubtless feel in having their mystical professions read by at least 300,000, and understood by only one. Jonathan Swift knew all about it in his letters to Stella, and was moved to observe that a bad move was an snuff.

Virginia Woolf, who had a bit of a housewife love life herself, pointed out in *The Common Reader* in 1935 the need for lovers like Swift and throw off the ceremonial conventions of society, and to use a language which is as much a necessity as a breath of air in a hot room. Love has much to do with intimacy of shared secrets, which today rarely come from visions of frogs to oodles of glubberchucks.

No Enigma machine, no board of chess grandmasters holed up for a year in Blechley Park, could decode the last year's intriguing canary sings forth to the kankaroo with a pointed helmet a bacon sonnet.

This year the messages tend to the prosaic rather than the poetic; perhaps it has something to do with the train strikes. An occasional reference to distance and parting suggests that Mr. Buckton's irregulars may be upsetting more than mere working lives.

Foreign tongues are still to the fore in this year's messages. French, the language of passionate love, is favourite; Latin, the language of cerebral love, is next; German, the language of love while standing to attention with one's kit ready for inspection; is third, with Italian getting only an occasional look in.

But at least the philosophers are still with us. Will Bundelbun. Cuddlemouse. Svbiil Halfpint. Monica Rabbit and the rest make words of the sage that love, like a new blurring paper, is best if not messed on?

Alan Hamilton

هكذا من الأصل



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

GETTING BACK IN BUSINESS

Judging from the letters and donations, tens and possibly hundreds of thousands of people would like to see Sir Freddie Laker back in business, and soon. It is not merely out of liking for a colourful character. It is that, uniquely, he provided a service that broadens the horizons of a new class of travellers and seemed to provide a badly needed spur of competition. Presumably that purpose would be filled anew the earlier he returned to competition. All the more so if he returns with the resources of Laker behind him to enable a renewed assault on the market to be launched with real effectiveness.

Tiny Rowland, a colourful character himself, has shown in the past a willingness to back with considerable sums enterprises which have failed. Although the details of how he might finance a new Laker line have yet to become clear, there is no reason to doubt that he could set up a new line with several aircraft.

Come back, Sir Freddie. Yes, but now? Even when the wreckage of the failed enterprise is still scattered across the tarmac? The final debts of Laker International have still to be worked out. But when all the assets have been sold, the outstanding figure is unlikely to be less than £100 million. Included in that figure is perhaps as much as £700,000 owing to customers who have bought now worthless tickets, employees who are now without a job and may be owed pay by the company and a myriad of small suppliers, some of whom could themselves be

forced into bankruptcy by Laker's collapse. Their plight has a prior claim on Sir Freddie's drive.

Nor does it appear entirely fair in terms of the free competition of which Sir Freddie is so notably a champion. The strong objections of British Caledonian and other airlines to any granting of new air licences to Sir Freddie is doubtless self-interested. But they have an argument. Theoretically and in practice, Sir Freddie with Mr Rowland's backing could go to the receiver, buy up some of his planes at perhaps 10 per cent of the purchase price and relaunch his transatlantic operations with a company unburdened by debt, with customers developed by his previous airline, and with licences reallocated from the old service. The consumer might be served in the short term. But companies such as British Caledonian, of reasonable efficiency but burdened by the cost of financing honoured debt, would be at an almost impossible disadvantage. For those suppliers or customers, and even banks, who had lost money on Laker Mark I and were prepared to risk money on Laker Mark II, it could be regarded as a case of "beware the creditor." But the impact on other lines could prove extremely destructive.

British law has always tended to the view that limited liability is essential for the creation and growth of businesses, and has found accordingly. If banks and others allow their clients to become overextended and lose money in the process, that is

their fault: they should be old enough to look after themselves. While Sir Kenneth Cork is studying bankruptcy provisions with a view to recommending changes in the law, he is looking largely at provisions to prevent fraudulent trading before insolvency or bankruptcy is declared, not after. And that is where the changes are most urgently needed. To help protect customers and creditors from falling victim to those with a history of insolvency, greater publicity and better public records are needed, not changes in the law that would have far reaching effects in discouragement of new enterprises.

Sir Freddie's case is a special and spectacular one. For the sake of his own reputation as a folk hero of the British consumer, he might be well advised to act with greater sensitivity to those hurt by the crash and wait a decent interval before embarking on a new career. So far as justice and commerce are concerned, there is no reason to prevent him setting up again wherever, whenever and in whatever manner he wishes and he can get backing for — provided he is not actually awarded a competitive advantage out of the ruins of his previous collapse. As for the Civil Aviation Authority it has no reason to regard him as a special case. Any application he makes for licences should be treated in exactly the same way as the application for any new airline setting up from scratch, with a proper examination of the records and experience of those running it.

OPEN COURT, CLOSED FOR COMMENT

Parties to litigation are required to pass to each other for copying all documents in their possession relevant to the case. The courts have power to compel them to do so. They exercise that power for the sole purpose of doing justice in the cases before them. For that restricted purpose the invasion of privacy is necessary and justified; but it is none the less an invasion of a person's right to confidentiality in his private papers, and the courts would be right to jump on any abuse of the practice. Such an abuse was alleged against Miss Harriet Harman by the Home Office in proceedings which were decided by the House of Lords on Thursday.

Miss Harman had acted as solicitor to a plaintiff who brought an action against the Home Office arising out of his confinement in the "control unit" in Hull prison. Miss Harman was also legal officer for the National Council for Civil Liberties. She applied for discovery of documents by the Home Office, including six confidential papers about control units for which the Home Office claimed immunity on the ground that disclosure would be against the public interest. The judge later ruled that those particular documents were inadmissible evidence, though not before they had been read out in open court. That sequence of events was rather galling for the Home Office.

Before the court had given judgment and while copies were still in Miss Harman's possession she showed them to a journalist who found in

them ammunition for an article, in no sense a court report, critical of the Home Office's control unit policy. The cause was one which the NCCL also had at heart.

The Home Office laid a complaint against Miss Harman of breach of undertakings to the court. All agreed that she had bound herself in the first place to make no use of the documents for any purpose other than the proceedings before the court, and that her showing them to the journalist in the way she did went beyond that purpose. Miss Harman however claimed that she had been absolved from her undertaking by the fact that the documents were read out in court. From that moment they were in the public domain and she was as free as anyone else to treat them as such. That was the point on which the case turned. Two law lords agreed with her. Three did not.

This much is to be said in favour of the majority opinion. Eight hundred pages of private documents read out in court may truly be said to be in the public domain, but the practicalities of court reporting suggest that those who happen to have copies at a distinct advantage when it comes to exploiting that change of status. Their advantage derives from the privilege they enjoy under the rules of discovery in civil actions. But since those rules explicitly restrict the purpose for which possession of a document can be used to the purpose of the court in doing justice in the particular case, the advantage is not one they

ought to be allowed to make use of. Otherwise the whole business of discovery, a necessary process for the administration of justice, would be made more difficult and uncertain.

Lord Scarman, for the minority, blew all that away with a blast on the Milronic trumpet. Freedom of communication had become part of the English law. Private documents once they had become public knowledge might be fully reported, discussed, and made subject of public comment and criticism. Those freedoms enured in the public at large. Public trials sometimes exposed matters of public interest worthy of comment outside the context of the trial itself. Such discussion should not be discouraged or obstructed. Music to the ears of journalists.

Lord Scarman's eloquence will not be made more persuasive by elaboration in the editorial columns of an interested party, which is what all newspapers here are. So we invite our readers to find with him on another ground. A rule of law should eschew anomaly. A rule that the parties' lawyers are bound to continue to treat as confidential a document that has been read in open court because they have an unfair advantage will not neutralize their advantage. They can still pick up the telephone. "Look, I've something hot here that you'll be interested in. I'm not free to show it to you, but send a shorthand reporter along to number three court tomorrow morning..." What kind of a rule is that?

FINIS CORONAT OPUS

Sopor — Zythum does not strike one as a title that will soar naturally to the top of the list of best-selling books. It is, nevertheless, the most important book published next week, the culmination of fifty years of scholarship, a work that will last and be used for as long as people read. "Sleep" — an Egyptian form of beer — may get things in the wrong order, but it is the eighth and final fascicle of the *Oxford Latin Dictionary*, the first Latin-English dictionary composed entirely from the original sources. It will also be the last. Latin is a dead language. Much work of noble note may yet be done in interpretation. Archaeology and inscription-deciphering may add fractionally to the word-stock. But the monumental work that has been going on for half a century has been done to last.

Mr Peter Glare's final fascicle lives up to the high standards of scholarship, lexicographical clarity, and charm of its predecessors. Since volunteers all over the country started collecting more than a million slips of quotations in 1931, classical scholarship has focused fruitfully on the nuts and bolts of

Oxford Latin Dictionary to hand, we now know more exactly than any generation of schoolboys since the Dark Ages the precise plants and plant-diseases in the *Georgics*, for example, and the nature of some of the wonders that caught Pliny's curious eye.

There are some words for which even *OLD* has not got the answer, for example, *talabarrunculus*, the elegant adverb, *topper*, and *spattaro*, a very Southern European term of abuse. There are some cases where our information is clearly defective, but we have no means of establishing the truth. *Tux pax* is said to have been an expression of thanks, while *tux* represented the sound of blows. Only a rash or frivolous commentator would suggest that the man in the first instance was turning the other cheek.

As usual in dictionaries, the longest word is the least interesting, and has the shortest entry: *subditiisuperclitriptor* (an ultra-censorious person) is a nonce-word and therefore a bit of a cheat. Dear old *ut* is the shortest in the fascicle, and has the longest and most interesting entry; though generations of

schoolchildren mired in final and consecutive clauses might dispute the last point.

Fifty years ago the Delegates of the Oxford University Press decided that the only Latin-English dictionary, an obsolete translation by the Americans Lewis and Short of a previous dictionary, was past mending. It was a wise decision, though even more accustomed to longevous and majestic works of scholarship cannot have imagined how long and majestic it was going to turn out. A renovation of Lewis and Short would not have been the perfect solution. It would also have run the risk, in these brisk times, of being entitled Lewis 'n' Short.

The great dictionary begins with the exclamation of (ah!), which, as in English, expresses a variety of emotions — the *OLD* instances distress, regret, pity, appeal, entreaty, surprise, joy, objection, contempt. In the past fifty years the learned lexicographers have often exclaimed at *As* Latinists raise celebratory glasses of zythum next week, the room will be filled with balloons inscribed: "Thanks Al!"

Effects of lead levels in petrol

From the Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Security

Sir, Your issue of February 8 printed a letter which I sent to the Permanent Secretary at the Department of Education and Science and other official colleagues in March, 1981. Some of the subsequent comment in your columns and elsewhere has misrepresented my position in certain respects.

It is erroneous to infer that my advice in any way negated or contradicted that of Professor Lawther's working party on lead and health. The contrary is the case.

The report was published in March, 1980 and, after careful consideration of all the evidence then available, the working party felt unable to come to clear conclusions concerning the effects of intermediate amounts of lead (ie in the range 35-80 micrograms per decilitre of blood lead) on the intelligence, behaviour and performance of children.

nevertheless recommended that emissions of lead to the air should be reduced. Following the publication of the report, results from a later study suggested that there might be an association between blood lead levels below 35 micrograms per decilitre and impaired reading, spelling and intelligence in children.

These results were not conclusive because in this pilot study the possible influence of social factors could not be separated from the effects of lead, but taken together with the known toxicity of lead at high levels and the conclusion of the working party that an effect at intermediate levels could not be excluded they strongly suggested that the margin of safety was too small. We estimated that some hundreds

of thousands of British children could have blood lead concentrations above 25 micrograms per decilitre; even though most of these children would be below 35 micrograms per decilitre they would have little margin of safety in comparison with margins considered necessary for other toxic substances.

I concluded that steps should be taken to reduce the general population exposure to lead. That conclusion was entirely consistent with the working party's advice and in March, 1981, I advised the Government accordingly.

By the time I wrote, action on the working party's recommendations on other sources of lead, such as old paint, soldered cans, and plumb-solvent water supplies, which in some localities are of greater importance than petrol, had already been agreed. That is why the specific advice which I gave, based on the working party's final recommendations and on further information which became available after the publication of the report, related only to petrol.

That advice was correctly quoted in the paragraph fourth from last in your letter in these terms: "I have advised my Secretary of State that action should now be taken to reduce markedly the lead content of petrol in use in the United Kingdom". The Minister for Local Government and Environment, however, announced to Parliament on May 11, 1981, that this was being done.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY YELLOULEES,
Department of Health and Social Security,
Alexander Fleming House,
Elephant and Castle, SE1,
February 12.

Next step for Alliance

From Mr Emrys Roberts

Sir, Transcending the dip in the popularity of the Alliance in the MORI poll report are two events of overriding significance. First, the agreement that there shall be one leader of the Alliance in the general election; and the finding that 62 per cent of SDP supporters want a merger with the Liberal Party. I hope that at least an equal majority of Liberal supporters would want a merger with the SDP.

In 1951 Lady Megan Lloyd George and I initiated talks with Herbert Morrison proposing a working relationship between the Labour Government with its majority of eight and the Liberals, who had nine MPs. He was more than well disposed, but Clement Attlee's decision to dissolve Parliament thwarted further progress. David Steel and I carried on in 1978 and what we were trying to do in 1981.

There is now a hope of a left-centre government after the next election. We should not be surprised, much less put out, because the attempt to allocate constituencies between the SDP and Liberal parties is full of pitfalls. We must accept that the attempt to achieve a neat and perfect solution may not succeed one hundred per cent.

At this point, with the experience of the past few months, the most fruitful course is for the leaders of both parties to aim higher than constituency bargain-

ing. Constituency allocation, carefully supervised from the centre, spelt out delicately as applying to the next election alone, is the language of coalition government, if it is successful; or tactical collaboration between two opposition parties in the House of Commons if it fails to win a majority of seats.

In the light of the acceptance of one leader for the election, and the growing support in the country for a merger, the next step, in a movement which has shown tremendous dynamism so far, is open and lively encouragement by the leaders of both parties to constituency associations to discuss mergers.

Hitherto, the subject has been a little fearful, the leadership a little fearful of starting something quite so new. Yet I suspect that this is just what the supporters of both parties would now welcome; a little push towards constituency mergers. There will be reluctance in many constituencies, to begin with; but I doubt whether the situation will present greater problems than sometimes prickly efforts to agree whether the candidate should be Liberal or SDP. The merger aim dissolves this quarrel.

Yours faithfully,
EMRYS ROBERTS,
Liberal MP for Merioneth 1945-1951,
Dwydderwen,
Menai Bridge,
Isle of Anglesey,
February 10.

The Laker crash

From Mr Henry Stern

Sir, I was appalled to hear that Freddie Laker is already considering starting another airline. It is largely as a result of his unrealistic and predatory pricing policies, irresponsible financial management (sides and abettors by banks no doubt greedy for interest), fired by an overweening ambition, that his airline collapsed.

In the meantime many people who have lost good faith parted with their money for his scheduled services are likely to find themselves without a holiday, as they are covered neither by the ABTA (Association of British Travel Agents) bond nor the Air Travel Reserve fund.

I sincerely hope that before anyone is rash enough to grant him any further licences they will ensure that such debts of honour are discharged, and that any future ventures are brought under the strictest financial controls.

"And I hope — no doubt vainly — that next time the public is warned over a long period, including, as I recall, by your own Air Correspondent in an article about two years ago, of the inevitable result of the price war over transatlantic fares, they will be less surprised when the inevitable does happen. That it is Laker who is the victim of his own raid on the market is merely a sort of rough justice."

Yours faithfully,
HENRY STERN,
12 Telford Gardens, NW4,
February 10.

Self-employed penalty

From Mr H. T. H. Goodwin

Sir, The Government wishes to encourage small businesses but apparently penalizes the retired self-employed person.

The only way for a self-employed person to enjoy a pension on retirement is to save money over the years, by one method or another, to provide capital to be invested on retirement in order to produce income by way of a pension.

person and a disincentive to founding small businesses?

I suggest that immediate steps should be taken in the forthcoming Budget to ensure that the investment income of retired self-employed persons would not be liable to the surcharge or alternatively that the threshold at which the surcharge liability begins should be raised to not less than £25,000 per annum at the present time and should be index-linked.

Yours faithfully,
H. T. H. GOODWIN,
13 The Drive,
Ovington,
Kent,
February 10.

Birds' nest thefts

From Mr and Mrs Desmond Nethersole-Thompson

Sir, David Nicholson-Lord's article of February 1 refers to "a book about greenishanks by one of Britain's best known and respected ornithologists". The allegation that our book, *Greenishanks*, has "assisted thieves to rob birds' nests" is entirely unfounded.

The greenishank has a population of 800 to 900 breeding pairs which are dispersed over great tracts of some of the wildest country in Scotland. Even in its most favoured habitats nests are seldom less than half a mile apart and, incidentally, are seldom placed immediately beside lochs or on mountain sides. The nest of the greenishank among the most difficult to find of any bird breeding in Britain.

The nesting areas given in our book are contained within deer forests of several thousand acres. Almost all of these were plotted in the 10 km squares published by the British Trust for Ornithology in their *Atlas of the Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland* (1976).

The suggestion that the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds or any private society, should "screen other forthcoming publications" would never be accepted by us or by many other ornithologists.

Yours,
DESMOND NETHERSOLE-THOMPSON,
MAIDIE NETHERSOLE-THOMPSON,
Ivy Cottage,
Culrain,
Argyll,
Ross-shire,
February 3.

'Right of reply' in the media

From Professor Antony Allott

Sir, One assumes, however improbable the assumption, that Mr Michael Meacher, MP, is serious when he calls (February 10) for the institution of a compulsory "right of reply" within the "media" for anyone who feels himself "grossly and inaccurately misrepresented". Let me, at the risk of grossly misrepresenting Mr Meacher's views, draw out some of the implications of his comments and proposals.

A legal right of reply does not exist in what sense, then, can Mr Meacher call it a right, now? This non-right was "enforced" by extra-legal backing by Aslef members. Instead of condemning this oppressive action, Mr Meacher wants it legitimated by law, as if illegal gate-crashers were heard to complain about being forced to barge their way in by the host's unfortunate failure to invite them!

There are two objections to Mr Meacher: (1) His so-called "right" of reply is totally misconceived. (2) If such a procedure were instituted, it would be unworkable and destructive of the media as we know them.

1. The "right" is misconceived. We are allowed to say and publish what we like — it is a free country — subject only to our duty not to offend against the laws of defamation, sedition, official secrets, parliamentary privilege, race relations, public order and so on. If we so offend, we can be prosecuted or dealt with civilly.

If you do not like what I say, and the existing laws provide a remedy, you may seek a medium, oral or written, for letting others know your version of the truth. There are so many organs of so many kinds and tendencies that you will be sure to find some vehicle for your views. What you cannot do is to demand that the publisher of a newspaper, a magazine, a publicity handout, a circular letter, to publish your views. Why should I?

Contrary to Mr Meacher's view, freedom of the press does mean and should mean "a licence to print their own sectional propaganda". From the extreme left to the extreme right, with the extremely boring or specialised in between. What Mr Meacher apparently seeks is an expropriation from the individual publisher of whatever tendency (he may be big or small) of his freedom to publish or not to publish, replacing all these diverse purveyors of news and views by a single, uniform,

homogenised state journal, as exciting and reliable as Pravda.

There is one body of persons permitted by English law to traduce other persons without legal remedy, and that is members of Parliament during parliamentary sessions: how about Mr Meacher ameliorating this for a start?

2. The suggestion is unworkable. I misrepresent Mr Meacher's views; you publish what I say. Mr Meacher insists on his statutory right of reply. You publish it. I find his reply "hostile", "offending", "grossly and inaccurately misrepresenting my views or character". I demand my own right of reply; and so on and so forth. Either then you would find your columns permanently occupied by material you neither originated nor selected, or you would be well advised not to publish my letter in the first place.

Either possibility has intolerable implications. In particular, you would be well advised not to report the speeches or print the observations of politicians, many of whom (here I go traducing them!) specialise in grossly and inaccurately misrepresenting the character, behaviour and opinions of their opponents. Suppress all mention of politicians, however dotty, in your pages, and half the joy would go out of your life and mine.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY ALLOTT,
21 Windsor Road, Finchley, N3.

From the Director of the Press Council

Sir, Mr Michael Meacher's letter (February 10) calls parenthetically for the Press Council to be given statutory powers. Three royal commissions, the council itself and its constituent bodies have all preferred a voluntary council without statutory powers.

Proposals to curb the press by statute, predictably always advanced as being in the public interest, produce some strange bedfellows. Before Mr Meacher's call the last advocacy of a Press Council with statutory powers came from the Steyn commission of inquiry into the mass media of South Africa last week. It evoked widespread alarm and opposition in Britain in which you joined. I joined and I should be surprised and disappointed if Mr Meacher did not join.

Yours, etc.,
KENNETH MORGAN, Director,
The Press Council,
1 Salisbury Square, EC4.

The AID child

From Mrs A. C. James

Sir, May I through your columns support the call by Dr. R. Snowden and Professor G. D. Mitchell (February 4) for public debate and discussion on the important topics of in vitro fertilization, surrogate motherhood and artificial insemination by donor?

These practices are of such literally vital importance to the future of mankind that it is essential that the legal status of the children born as a result of such practices should be clarified by statute and not merely left to be discovered from a study of statutes and case law, which deal primarily with other topics such as adoption, child custody and maintenance, divorce or the registration of births. Perhaps the time has come for a royal commission to inquire into and report upon these subjects.

May I also plead for greater understanding to be extended to those suffering from infertility problems? Dr Michael Thomas, chairman of the Central Ethical Committee of the British Medical Association, may be technically correct when he states in your columns (January 28) and on television (February 2) that "Nobody dies of infertility," but it appears from letters to our organization, Child, that some sufferers may be driven to contemplate an attempt at suicide.

Now you and your friends, with the insouciance of a man who knows the back way in to Fort Knox, ushered me into Whitney's office (the boss was out to lunch, you see).

I sank up to my collar in the carpet, and eventually, hacking my way through the undergrowth, came to a desk about the size of Victoria Station. On it there was nothing but a blotterpad, some tastefully-arranged pencils, and a green eyeshade.

Now you and I know, of course, that newspapermen do not wear green eyeshades except in bad films; presumably, however, nobody had told Mr Whitney this (well, you wouldn't tell Mr Murdoch if his shirt was hanging out, would you?), and there the thing was. It was an exceptionally up-market green eyeshade, I may say, made out of

fictal families" do so after practitioner investigations, often extending over many years, have resulted only in the knowledge that they cannot bear "natural" children. They are not acting upon a sudden urge or, in Dr Thomas's unfortunate phrase, a whim. They have had more than an adequate amount of time to consider their actions and the consequences arising from them.

Yours faithfully,
A. C. JAMES, Acting Chairman,
Child,
9 The Paddock,
Lanchester, Durham.

A mature view

From Mrs Naomi McIntosh

Sir, Lady Sachs (February 4) need not worry that Channel 4's programme for the elderly will patronize them. We well understand that their tastes run the gamut of television from cops and robbers to *Panorama* and back. But we do intend to screen one programme a week that caters for the particular needs and concerns of a growing, and some say neglected, sector of the population.

To be 72 and not to be aware that there are problems for which old people need help and advice is enviable indeed. But the fact is that they do.

Yours faithfully,
NAOMI E. MCINTOSH,
Senior Commissioning Editor,
Channel 4 Television,
60 Chichester Street, W1,
February 9.

All my eye and B. Levin

From Mr Bernard Levin

Sir, The death of John Hay Whitney, whose obituary you publish today (February 9), enables me to relieve my conscience of a burden it has been carrying for almost two decades, and I would be grateful if you would allow me, in your columns, to make open confession — so good, they say, for the soul. Not long after 1961, Whitney bought the *New York Herald Tribune*. I was visiting that city and having lunch with a friend who worked on the paper. I called at his office to pick him up, and as we had some time in hand, he offered to show me round the building. Eventually we got to the executive floor (if you think you have a posh executive floor at *The Times*, and indeed posh executives, you should have seen the ones at the *Trib*) and my friend, with the insouciance of a man who knows the back way in to Fort Knox, ushered me into Whitney's office (the boss was out to lunch, you see).

I sank up to my collar in the carpet, and eventually, hacking my way through the undergrowth, came to a desk about the size of Victoria Station. On it there was nothing but a blotterpad, some tastefully-arranged pencils, and a green eyeshade.

Now you and I know, of course, that newspapermen do not wear green eyeshades except in bad films; presumably, however, nobody had told Mr Whitney this (well, you wouldn't tell Mr Murdoch if his shirt was hanging out, would you?), and there the thing was. It was an exceptionally up-market green eyeshade, I may say, made out of

some very firm Perspex-type plastic, and with a beautiful padded strip round the top to avoid the risk of chafing the boss's forehead or temples.

The ink blushed red in my pen as I wrote those words, but write them I must. Sir, many years over me, the high principles by which I had always endeavoured to guide my life vanished in an instant, and Belial had me in his grip. I determined to steal John Hay Whitney's green eyeshade. With the last vestige of decency that remained to me, I bade my friend turn his back, so that he could truthfully say, when the uproar started, that he had seen nothing untoward take place. I then tucked the green eyeshade under my jacket, and we went to lunch.

Ever since, the guilt of that crime has dogged me, day and night. But I must expiate it at last, if only because Whitney may even now be explaining to his Maker that he ought to be let off a good deal of Furgatory because his life had been soured by the theft of his green eyeshade, and that his Maker ought to be going after the villain who had nicked it instead of him.

I feel better already. I have to add, though, that when I left the paper on which we then both worked, I bequeathed the green eyeshade of John Hay Whitney to Katharine Whitehorn. As far as I know, she has never lost a moment's sleep over her role as an accessory after the fact. But that is her problem now.

My best wishes to you all down there. I bet Mr Murdoch doesn't wear a green eyeshade. Ta-ta for now,
BERNARD LEVIN,
10 Devonshire Place, W1,
February 9.

Saturday Review

Princes over the mob

As the First World War raged, D. H. Lawrence nurtured his own dream of the brave new world that would follow it — and expounded his hopes in letters to the cultural and social élite whose doors had been opened to him by the success of *Sons and Lovers*...



National Portrait Gallery



Hulton Picture Library



The philosopher Bertrand Russell (1872-1970), far left, was then a lecturer at Trinity College, Cambridge. His active pacifism led to six months' jail in 1918.

Lady Ottoline Morrell (1873-1938), centre, social and literary hostess, made her home, Garsington Manor, Oxfordshire, a refuge for conscientious objectors.

D. H. Lawrence (1885-1930), left, was not a pacifist — he was twice rejected, on health grounds, for military service — but regarded the war as wholly evil.

Lady Cynthia Asquith (1887-1960) was the daughter-in-law of the Prime Minister, H. H. Asquith (Liberal; Coalition from May 26, 1915).

ing up at us. Also over the river, beyond the ferry, there is the flat silvery world, as in the beginning, untouched: with pale sand, and very much white foam, row after row, coming from under the sky, in the silver evening; and no people, no people at all, no houses, no buildings, only a haystack on the edge of the shingle, and an old black mill. For the rest, the flat unfinished world running with foam and noise and silvery light, and a few gulls swinging like a half-born thought. It is a great thing to realise that the original world is still there — perfectly clean and pure, many white advancing foams, and only the gulls swinging between the sky and the shore.

It is this mass of unclean world that we have super-imposed on the clean world that we cannot bear. When I looked back out of the clearness of the open evening, at this Littlehampton dark and amorphous like an eruption on the edge of the land, I was so sick I felt I could not come back: all these little, amorphous houses like an eruption, a disease on the clean earth; and all of them full of such a diseased spirit, every landlady harping on her money, her earnings, as if the world had become on his latitude of escape from money and furniture.

One watches them on the seashore, all the people; and there is something pathetic, almost wistful in them, as if they wished that their lives were not added to this scaly nullity of possession, but as if they could not escape. It is a dragon that has devoured us all: these obscene, scaly houses, this insatiable struggle and desire to possess, to possess always and in spite of everything, the need to be an owner, lest one be owned. It is too horrible. One can no longer live with people: it is too hideous and nauseating. Owners and owned, they are like the two sides of a ghastly disease. One feels a sort of madness come over one as if the world had become hell. But it is only super-imposed: it is only a temporary disease. It can be cleaned away.

Of course your husband will go to the war and love it much better than you, if you want him to make money. It doesn't matter whether you need money or not. You do need it. But the fact that you would ask him to work, put his soul into getting it, makes him love better war and pure destruction. The thing is painfully irrational. How can a man be so developed, as to be able to devote himself to making money, and at the same time keep himself in utter antagonism to the whole system of money. If he is in antagonism, he is in antagonism. And he will escape, with joy, from the necessity for money, into war, which is its pure destruction.

One must destroy the spirit of money — the blind spirit of possession. It is the dragon for your St George: neither rewards on earth nor in heaven, of ownership: but always the give and take, the fight and the embrace: no more: no diseased stability of possessions, but the give and take of love and conflict, with the eternal consummation in each. The only permanent thing is consummation in love or hate.

(D. H. Lawrence)

This article is taken from *The Letters of D. H. Lawrence, Volume II (June 1913 — October 1916)*, edited by George T. Zytaruk and James T. Boulton and to be published shortly by Cambridge University Press at £20.

To Lady Ottoline Morrell, 1 February 1915

Greatham, Pulborough, Sussex
Dear Lady Ottoline,

I must write you a line when you have just gone, to tell you how my heart feels quite big with hope for the future. Almost with the remainder of tears and the last gnashing of teeth, I could sing the "Magnificat" for the child in my heart.

I want you to form the nucleus of a new community which shall start a new life amongst us — a life in which the only riches is integrity of character. So that each one may fulfil his own nature and deep desires to the utmost, but wherein the ultimate satisfaction and joy is in the completeness of us all as one. Let us be good all together, instead of just in the privacy of our chambers, let us know that the intrinsic part of all of us is the best part, the believing part, the passionate, generous part. We can all come croppers, but what does it matter. We can laugh at each other, and dislike each other, but the good remains, and we know it.

And the new community shall be established upon the known, eternal good part in us.

This present community consists, as far as it is a framed thing, in a myriad contrivances for preventing us from being let down by the meanness in ourselves or in our neighbours. But it is like a motorcar that is so encumbered with non-sense, non-puncture, non-burst, non-this and non-that contrivances, that it simply can't go any more.

I hold this the most sacred duty — the gathering together of a number of people who shall agree to live by the best they know, that they shall be free to live by the best they know. The ideal, the religion, must now be lived, practised. We will have no more churches. We will bring church and house and shop together. I do believe that there are enough decent people to make a start with. Let us get the people. Curse the [Lytton] Strachey who asks for a new religion — the greedy dog. He wants another juicy bone for his soul, does he? Let him start to fulfil what religion he have.

After the war, the soul of the people will be so maimed and so injured that it is horrible to think of. And this shall be the new hope: that there shall be a life wherein the struggle shall not be for money or for power, but for individual freedom and common effort towards good. That is surely the richest thing to have now — the feeling that one is working, that one is part of a

great, good effort or of a great effort towards goodness.

It is no good plastering and tinkering with this community. Every strong soul must put off its connection with this society, its vanity and chiefly its fear, and go naked with its fellows, weaponless, armourless, without shield or spear, but only with naked hands and open eyes. Not self-sacrifice, but fulfilment, the flesh and the spirit in league together, not in arms against one another.

And each man shall know that he is part of the greater body, each man shall submit that his own soul is not supreme even to himself. To be or not to be is no longer the question. The question now, is how shall we fulfil our declaration "God is". For all our life is now based on the assumption that God is not — or except on rare occasions.

We must go very, very carefully at first. The great serpent to destroy, is the Will to Power: the desire for one man to have some dominion over his fellow man. Let us have no personal influence, if possible — nor personal magnetism, as they used to call it, nor persuasion — no "Follow me" — but only "Behold". And a man shall not come to save his own soul — let his soul go to hell. He shall come because he knows that his own soul is not the be-all and the end-all, but that all souls of all things do but compose the body of God, and that God indeed Shall Be.

I do hope that we shall all of us be able to agree, that we have a common way, a common interest, not a private way and a private interest only.

It is communism based, not on poverty, but on riches, not on humility, but on pride, not on sacrifice, but upon complete fulfilment in the flesh of all strong desire, not on forfeiture but upon inheritance, not on heaven but on earth. We will be Sons of God who walk here [...] on earth, not bent on getting and having, because we know we inherit all things. We will be aristocrats, and as wise as the serpent in dealing with the mob. For the mob shall not crush us nor starve us nor cry us to death. We will deal cunningly with the mob, the greedy soul, we will gradually bring it to subjection.

We will found an order, and we will all be Princes, as the angels are.

We must bring this thing about — at least set it into life, bring it forth new-born on the earth, watched over by our old cunning and guarded by our ancient, mercenary-soldier habits.

My wife sends her greetings and pledge of alliance. I shall paint you a little wooden box.

Au revoir D. H. Lawrence

To Bertrand Russell, 24 February 1915

Greatham, Pulborough, Sussex

Dear Bertrand Russell,

Your letter was very kind to me, and somehow made me feel as if I were impertinent — a bit. You have worked so hard in the abstract beyond me, I feel as if I should never be where you have been for so long, and are now — it is not my destiny. And if you are there beyond me, I feel it impertinent to talk and write so vehemently. I feel you are tolerant when you listen. Which is rather saddening. I wish you'd tell me when I am foolish and over-insistent.

I have only to stick to my vision of a life where men are freer from the immediate material things, where they need never be as they are now on the defensive against each other, largely because of the struggle for existence, which is a real thing, even to those who need not make the struggle. So a vision of a better life must include a revolution of society. And one must fulfil one's vision as much as possible. And the drama shall be between individual men and women, not between nations and classes. And the great living experience for every man is his adventure into the woman. And the ultimate passion of every man is to be within himself the whole of mankind — which I call social passion — which is what brings to fruit your philosophical writings. The man embraces in the woman all that is not himself, and from that one resultant, from that embrace, comes every new action.

Apart from this, a man can only take that which is already

known, hold it to himself, and say "this is good — or true — and this is not good, not true". But this is only the sifting or re-stating of that which is given, it is not the making of a new movement, a new combination.

I hope this doesn't sound all foolish to you.

I wrote a book about these things — I used to call it *Le Gai Savoir*. I want now to re-write this stuff, and make it as good as I can, and publish it in pamphlets, weekly or fortnightly, and so start a campaign for this freer life. I want to talk about it when I come to Cambridge. I want to come — I want to come on the 6th and stay to the 8th — but are the two nights too long? I don't want you to put up with my talk, when it is foolish, because you think perhaps it is passionate. And it is not much good my asking you about your work. I should have to study it a long time first. And it is not in me.

I feel quite sad, as if I talked a little vulgar language of my own which nobody understood. But if people all turn into stone or pillars of salt, one must still talk to them. You must put off your further knowledge and experience, and talk to me my way, and be with me, or I feel a babbling idiot and an intruder. My world is real, it is a true world, and it is a world I have in my measure understood. But no doubt you also have a true world, which I can't understand. It makes me [...]. I said to conclude that. But you must live in my world, while I am there. Because it is also a real world. And it is a world you can inhabit with me, if I can't inhabit yours with you.

I hope I shall see Lowes Dickinson too.

D. H. Lawrence

"Study of Thomas Hardy" in *Phoenix, the Posthumous Papers of D. H. Lawrence*, ed., Edward McDonald (1936).

To Bertrand Russell, 26 July 1915

Greatham — Pulborough

I rather hated your letter, and am terrified of what you are putting in your lectures. I don't want tyrants. But I don't believe in democratic control. I think the working man is fit to elect governors or overseers for his immediate circumstances, but for no more. You must utterly revise the electorate. The working man shall elect superiors for the things that concern him immediately, no more. From the other classes, as they rise, shall be elected the higher governors. The thing must culminate in one real head, as every organic thing must — no foolish republics with foolish presidents, but an elected King, something like Julius Caesar.

And as the men elect and govern the industrial side of life, so the women must elect and govern the domestic side. And there must be a rising rank of women governors, as of men, culminating in a woman Dictator, of equal authority with the supreme Man. It isn't boss, but rational sense. The whole thing must be living. Above all there must be no democratic control — that is the worst of all. There must be an elected aristocracy.

As for Horace Bottomley, a nation in a false system acting in a false spirit will quite rightly choose him. But a nation striving for the truth and the establishment of truth and right will forsake him in a second.

I shan't come to Garsington at once, because I am not quite in the mood. We are going on Friday to the seaside, to Littlehampton for a week. Then we go to London. Then we might arrange a meeting all together at

Garsington, if Lady Ottoline can do with us.

Frieda sends her Greetings.

D. H. Lawrence

We must have the same general ideas if we are going to be or do anything. I will listen gladly to all your ideas, but we must put our ideas together. This is a united effort, or it is nothing — a mere tiresome playing about, lecturing and so on. It is no mere personal voice that must raised; but a sound, living idea round which we all rally.

Horatio William Bottomley, MP and founder of John Bull, later gaoled for fraud.

To Lady Ottoline Morrell, 29 July 1915

Greatham — Pulborough

My dear Lady Ottoline,

We are going down to Littlehampton tomorrow to the sea, for a few days. I feel I want to be blown and washed, and to forget. We were at Littlehampton on Sunday, the Radfords are there, also Lady Cynthia [Asquith] was there. We have a very good bath, very good indeed. There was a strong wind that never ceased, and the waves came travelling high — much water travelling heavily and swinging one away. It was very good indeed.

Bertie's letter chagrined me. Are we never going to unite in one idea and one purpose? Is it to be a case of each one of us having his own personal and private thing? That is nothing. If we are going to remain a group of separate entities separately engaged, then there is no reason why we should be a group at all. We are just individualists. And individuals do not vitally concern me any more. Only a purpose vitally concerns me, not individuals — neither my own individual self, nor any other.

I want very much to come to Garsington if we are going to be a little group filled with one spirit and striving for one end. But if we are going to be a little set of individuals each one concerned with himself and his own personal fling at the world, I can't bear it.

Let us see what we can do, how we can do something, when we come back from Littlehampton...

The post-man is here —

au revoir

D. H. Lawrence

To Lady Cynthia Asquith, 3 August 1915

Littlehampton — Tuesday
My dear Lady Cynthia,
We have lived a few days on the sea-shore, with the waves bang-

Today D. H. Lawrence and his wife Frieda (here played by Ian McKellen and Janet Suzman in a scene from the new Christopher Miles film, *Priest of Love*) are seen as apostles of a new sexual freedom, and of a heady avant-garde in literature and art. But it is possible to see them as part of a rarefied élite enjoying an aristocratic life-style in a disintegrating world. Palimpsested by their pacifism from the horrors of the First World War, cushioned from the realities of working-class hunger and violence which Lawrence had left behind to flirt with the upper classes mentally and physically, they existed in an intellectual quarantine, in arcadian settings such as Lady Ottoline Morrell's Garsington

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RUDOLF BARSHAI</

Mike Westbrook

who begins a UK tour with his jazz band at the Round House in London tomorrow

The crayoned scrawls on the year planner in Mike Westbrook's music room record his engagements for 1982. As with the past few seasons, the bulk of them indicate jazz festivals in Continental towns, large and small, predominantly French and Scandinavian.

Since 1975, when he achieved a remarkable success with his small brass band at the Sigma Festival in Bordeaux, such events have been the lifeblood of the most distinguished British jazz composer of his generation. When he talks about his development over the last half-dozen years, these are the reference points: Pori and Willisau in 1978, for example, or Santarcangelo in 1980. At home, very little. Only Bath 1973, an arts workshop event at which the brass band was born, springs to mind.

Nearly every town in France, he says, has its own jazz festival, even if it amounts only to a single weekend each year, usually promoted by local students who book an American star, a European attraction and several local bands. Thousands turn up: the jazz audience, for some reason, is far broader and more healthy inquisitive than in Anglophone countries.

By contrast, his invitations to the handful of British jazz festivals are scarce. There is a feeling among the inner circle, Westbrook suggests, that his music is not serious enough; he also misses the feeling, which is particularly strong in France, that jazz is associated with other attitudes to life. He mentions feminism, for instance, and the anti-nuclear movement. He is happy about such connections, so long as they do not imply that he toes a party line; the whole thing, he suggests, is about being free and honest and not always having something to say about every social and political topic.

British suspicions about Westbrook's "seriousness" were probably fired a dozen years ago, when he wound down his involvement with the mainstream jazz scene and began to look elsewhere, at rock, at poetry, at conventional and street theatre. The early 1970s were the period of his collaboration with Adrian Mitchell on *Tyger*, the William Blake musical, for the National Theatre; of the extravagant mixed-media events of the Cosmic Circus, with John Fox; and of *Solid Gold Cadillac*.

This was no great conspiracy to achieve commercial



Mike Westbrook

success, he says. His sextet and his concert band, which had performed such large-scale works as *Release*, *Marching Song* and *Metropolis* in the late 1960s had run out of steam. He simply felt a need to communicate on a wider scale, and the idea of learning the theory behind the appeal of simpler musical forms seemed attractive. The rock scene was wide open to experiment, and he wanted to know how pop songs went about their function of

expressing universal feeling. During this era, particularly with *Cosmic Circus*, he came to like the sensation of being involved in a genuinely popular music.

Even then, he was still writing extended pieces like *Ciudad/Room 315* and the seven-hour *Coplan/Backlog*, but the formation of his brass band, almost by accident, provided a focus for all the various strands of his work. It was infinitely flexible, for one thing: as easily adapted to an informal concert in an old people's home as to the meticulous

staging of his "jazz cabaret", *Mama Chicago* and *Hotel Amigo*. He discovered that it could perform virtually any kind of music, from Elizabethan airs and "Bless This House" to Thelonic Monk's "Jackie-ing". Importantly, the presence of two singers — his wife, Kate Westbrook, and Phil Minton — encouraged him to continue the task of setting texts to such hybrid music.

His achievements with the brass band are at the heart of *The Cortège*, the two-hour composition which Westbrook's 16-piece orchestra is taking around Britain on a Contemporary Music Network tour, opening tomorrow at the Round House in London. A meditation on death in the form of orchestral settings of poetry from France (Rimbaud), Germany (Hesse), Spain (Lorca), England (Blake), of course, Sweden and elsewhere, much of it discovered or suggested by friends during his trips abroad, it has its origins in Westbrook's responses to the deaths of his father and of Duke Ellington, his first and most enduring influence.

While its structure may seem discursive, and the orchestral techniques involved draw on virtually every form he has ever explored, *The Cortège* is based on carefully formu-

lated schematics; at its earlier handful of presentations, however, these have never been allowed to intrude on the spontaneity of the performance, which finds eloquent expression in solo passages by Phil Minton, who also plays trumpet, by the trombonist Malcolm Griffiths, and by the saxophonist Chris Hunter.

Like all Westbrook's pieces, even *Bright as Fire*, the Blake sequence which is still regularly performed by the small group, *The Cortège* is a work in continual flux, although the infrequency of its appearance and the size of the ensemble makes rapid alterations more difficult. It is also the first part of a projected trilogy, planned to describe the pattern of a traditional New Orleans jazz funeral: the procession to the graveyard, the funeral service, and the joy of the returning parade.

Eventually, he muses, the complete work might involve a truly epic scale of presentation, perhaps the musical animation of a complete town — taking over the radio, the supermarket muzak systems, and so on. "I'm in no hurry," he adds. "I tend to take one thing at a time, and I'm lucky in that they usually tend to turn out better than I'd imagined."

Richard Williams

Saviours of America's Theatre?

New York / John Heilpern

In the past I have taken a few swipes at serious theatre in America. And why not? It has often hit me for six. But this week I am happy to burn my boats and declare the emergence of two major playwrights whose talent may yet save the theatre here from its deadly, communist-ized, compromised self.

Charles Fuller's *A Soldier's Play* for the Negro Ensemble Company firmly establishes Mr Fuller as one of the most intelligent voices in contemporary American theatre. At 24, the younger David Henry Hwang's two short plays for the Public Theatre, *Dance of the Railroad* and *Devotions*, confirm the exciting potential of an important (and adventurous) new American playwright. Both have great plays, perhaps the Great American Play, in them.

More to the point, though, one is black and the other Chinese-American, neither should be labelled "minority" or "ethnic". Each speaks forcefully of what it is like — and what it takes — to be a minority in America. At the same time, each writer transcends this and speaks to everyone of an intense struggle for identity in modern life, whether black or white, Asian-American or indeed English. Because if that were not the case, and their special achievement, I would not be able to write this.

Hwang's *Dance of the Railroad*, which lasts little more than an hour, strikes me as the work of a genuinely original talent. Set in California in 1867, it is a dialogue between two Chinese labourers building the transcontinental railroad. The shock of his second play this season at the Public Theatre, *Family Devotions*, for it seemed at first to be little more than a slick sitcom, a Chinese Neil Simon with wisecracks to match. "Anyone can make money in America. What's

hard is becoming a celebrity!" This country proves the beauty of the free enterprise system if you want to be a bum, it lets you be a bum. That's America!

True, but not enough the short play — again only an hour or so — appears to be a light satire on a rich assimilated Chinese-American family living ludicrously in Los Angeles with Betamax video, rock music, Hockney swimming pools, tennis clubs and the edicts of the *Wall Street Journal* and *Vogue* magazine. Until the wild card: an elderly uncle visits the family from China. He bears gifts: a tiny flag and a toy Chinese dragon purchased at the airport.

And what follows rips the play unexpectedly apart in the form of a violent ritual exorcism and death, shattering the illusions and false gods of both sides. It is a shocking climax. But for all that, *Family Devotions* does not quite work. It is less complete than *Railroad*, as if it were en route to a bigger statement and a bigger play. Mr Hwang has that play in him, and at 24 he has time enough to experiment more.

In an ideal world, this year's Edinburgh Festival would snap up his *Dance of the Railroad* and its two fine actors, and the National Theatre would import the Negro Ensemble Company's excellent production of Charles Fuller's *A Soldier's Play*. Mr Fuller is somewhat in the orthodox narrative tradition of Arthur Miller, and in *Soldier's Play* he has created a tragic hero as pitiful as Willy Loman.

His play is also about the search for identity — though in this case, the identities of

both a murderer and his victim. Intriguingly, it is more a search for the identity of a victim than of a killer. All we see at the start of the action is the shooting of a black sergeant in a Louisiana army base. The time is 1944.

On one level, *Soldier's Play* is a detective story — a good story, and like Miller, Mr Fuller knows how to tell one. What emerges, however — what we are lulled into — is not the stereotypical drama of racist whites versus blacks, but a play about one man's desperate ideals.

They belong to the black victim. The appalling tragedy of this trapped and brutal man is that he has not been murdered, one feels he would have killed himself. He despises the passive black identity of his Uncle Tom "children" in the army. "They oughta work you niggers till your legs fall off," he spits at them during training. "You brings us down, boy," he tells an unimpressed, sunny recruit. "The black race can't afford you no more."

He despises such blacks, and he despises himself — for shedding his own black identity, for trying to belong, for trying to make it in the white man's world on their terms and failing pathetically. Which way is right — to remain yourself, however retrogressive it may seem, or to compromise in an effort to succeed and "belong"? It may be that Mr Fuller has written *Soldier's Play* to explore a black tragedy, and that would be enough. What is troubling me is that within his driven, desperate, alienated hero may be found a part of us all.



Tzi Ma and John Lorie in "The Dance and the Railroad" at the Public Theatre, New York.

Radio/David Wade

Live correspondence

Though written for the stage and performed there in New York and London, Rosa Leiman Goldberg's *Letters Home* (Radio 3, February 7, 1982) was the kind of play which appears to have been made for radio. Based on the letters written by Sylvia Plath to her mother and edited under the same title by Mrs Plath, it consisted of the letters and a brief narrative of the same. This is a territory radio knows well and Anna Nygh (Sylvia) and June Brown (Mrs Plath) played their stage parts as if they had been conceived for sound.

In fact these parts were better balanced than my descriptions of them might suggest, for the text of the letters was often delivered antiphonally by both voices, thus creating the impression of a live correspondence. And what a vivid one it was, as it traced a life from college days to the final, terrible, with Ted Hughes, suicide.

Of course the end was known in advance and in this knowledge it was very difficult not to see everything as leading up to it as if preordained. For example, the early letters above all depict a girl of the most enthusiastic first responses: all new things are seen in rainbow colours. College is

marvellous; London is marvellous, "every alleyway crowded with tradition"; marriage, too, is marvellous. But then, by a process of reversal familiar in such personal narratives, things aren't marvellous, they become as bad as possible. And how little it takes to set off a reverse, for the euphoric state depends, and evidently did so here, on the continual approving attention of the outside world. It is no surprise then when still at college, she enters a profound and makes a serious suicide attempt. By now how can we see the second and successful one as anything but inevitable.

And yet the play seemed to me to suggest rather the opposite. For as Sylvia grew older, the mood of her letters began to oscillate less violently and her death came not at the bottom of yet another wild roller-coaster, plunge from heaven into nether hell, but in a crisis of her life where even the most stable might have contemplated making an end. As noted by Hughes alone with her children in a remote West Country house, then moving to an awful dump in London — the stresses now were mostly independent of her mood and must have been immense. The last letters reflect this: they suggest a woman hard-pressed, even desperate, but fighting her way out. Yet she never made

it. What happened? Did the roller-coaster reassert itself? Dramatically speaking, Capital Radio continues in regular if infrequent business. But it still has to turn in a play of real weight and Rosa Leiman Goldberg's *Letters Home* (February 7) brought the day no nearer. Yet this was a well-written and even gripping piece of work. In a series of sharply linked scenes and good authentic dialogue, it told how a young, straight, but disillusioned policeman is accidentally killed by a bullet intended as come-uppance for his best superior. Unfortunately time and treatment gave little opportunity to explore the implications of a story whose message therefore seemed to be that coppers on the whole are bent.

Time is also against Alison Plowden's *Great Families of England* (Radio 4, Sundays) whose four 45-minute parts to date have chiefly revealed the problems of compressing centuries of history, even if only of one family per part. As if to persuade us that something of importance is happening, noble music ushers in each programme. John Julius Norwich narrates and famous names figure in the cast. But the narration is historical-travelling stuff and the games play negligible dramatic sequences, most of which are quite ludicrously curtailed. Altogether a bit of a mess.

Television/Dennis Hackett

Unlikely love story

Petersham is an ex-West End playwright in the autumn of life whose plays are a memory in the minds of older audiences and who has only a slim hope of immortality in a routine biography by a non-prestigious publisher. We found him awaiting the author, making tea and soliloquizing with the fluency born of a lifetime of word-spinning at the start of BBC2's *Playhouse* production, *A Shilling Life*, last night.

She proves to be a businesslike young woman with a clutch of pot-boiler biographies behind her and a precise idea of what she wants for the next, making him "feel like the Parthenon about to be snapped by an American tourist".

Both having had a degree of exposure, peace breaks out and she is telling him how much she has enjoyed it all really when he drops off — the penalty no doubt of broken sleep at that age. And that's it. Exeunt all or, him change his mind about the biography.

Her apparent departure produces instant regret but she returns, not for the biography, but for dinner, bed, and, inevitably, the morning after. The first two have been something of a success but in the morning things are not so good.

He is trying to rekindle the warmth that went before; she is trying, at his behest, to read one of his plays, so things don't go too well. He interviews her, probing her educational background, exposing her acceptance of her failed ambition to be a writer even at his lesser level.

Hobson's Choice

Triumph Productions deserve a mention in dispatches for putting a season of serious work into the present West End front-line, and it is a relief to be able to offer an almost unreserved welcome to their first show.

Much loved classic though it is, *Hobson's Choice* still seemed an unlikely candidate for the "Haymarket Play" but Ronald Eyre's production manages to reconcile the inescapable pressures of star casting and scenic grandeur with the integrity of a comedy of lower-middle class Salford in the 1880s.

Horatio Hobson's Chapel Street shoe shop would probably have fitted four times into the space it gets on this stage; but thanks to the detail Kenneth Mellor has put into its gaslight fittings, window lettering, and acres

Theatre/Irving Wardle

A classic triumph

of forbidding chocolate paint, the establishment becomes as authentically impressive to us as to Horatio's workforce — driving home the sheer scale of Willie Mossop's achievement when he succeeds in taking it over.

Brighouse's plot is a brilliant reversal of two English legends: showing a Cinderella outgunning the ugly sisters, and a Katherine training up a reluctant Petruchio. Just how she pulls it off has always puzzled me. You can follow Willie's motives in setting his masterful bride when her bullying father assaults him with a strap. But he declares he has no love for her; and her only stratagem for turning him into a man is to treat him as a pupil and lead him off into the bedroom by his ear.

The comedy is a wholehearted defence of the kind of overbearing Northern women whom Northern playwrights usually delight in tearing to shreds. As such, it

needs a Maggie with some charm and even a touch of affection. In this version it receives the attentions of Penelope Keith.

The other two principals offer undiluted joy. Anthony Quayle's Horatio has clearly suffered from his first marriage (not for nothing is he always sneaking off to the Moonrakers Arms), and is fighting a losing battle against female "uppishness" right from the start.

Trevor Peacock, at first sight, looks too old for the guilelessly pliable Willie, but once that Caliban-like figure has climbed up, from the workroom and begun transmitting all the shades of inherited poverty, craft skill, and human worth, you can't imagine how else he could be played. His change from the wooden-jointed slave of the first act to the supple quick-moving master at end also evokes a third legend: *Pygmalion*.

Concerts/Noël Goodwin

Philharmonia/Ashkenazy

By my reckoning there were not less than a dozen different soloists at the Philharmonia Orchestra's concert. Eight of them were the wind instrument principals, who very properly had their pictures in the programme and the platform to themselves for a performance of Stravinsky's Octet in place of the conventional overture. And a diverting beginning it made, with a keen balance of instrumental focus and individual skill except for some lack of impetus in the finale.

Festival Hall

The conductor came fully into his own with an eloquent account with the long and often harrowing symphony N8 by Shostakovich. Divorced from the wartime circumstances that brought it about, yet in a world seem-

ingly little less troubled in spirit, the work bears the dramatic, sometimes heart-rendering witness to a man's belief in himself and in his purpose as an artist against the contending forces around him. Even while the first of five movements was in progress we were listening to a high level of orchestral virtuosity which was sustained throughout, and to which various other instrumentalists made distinctive solo contributions. The unusual effects, like the flutter-tongued chords for the flutes, added to a wealth of detail that made up an impressive performance wholly at the service of the music's intention.

Holiday discount news

Sooner or later all aspects of the discount market will be affected by the collapse of Laker, but the final results will only be seen in the long run. Meanwhile, Horizon are already announcing that there will be extra seats available, and no surcharge on departures in March, April or May.

Neilson have a further list of "Price melters" for Italy, Austria and France (from several airports) ranging from £109/£169 for a 7/17 day holiday — prices are guaranteed and

final but the choice of destination is theirs, not yours, and there is a varying basis for meals.

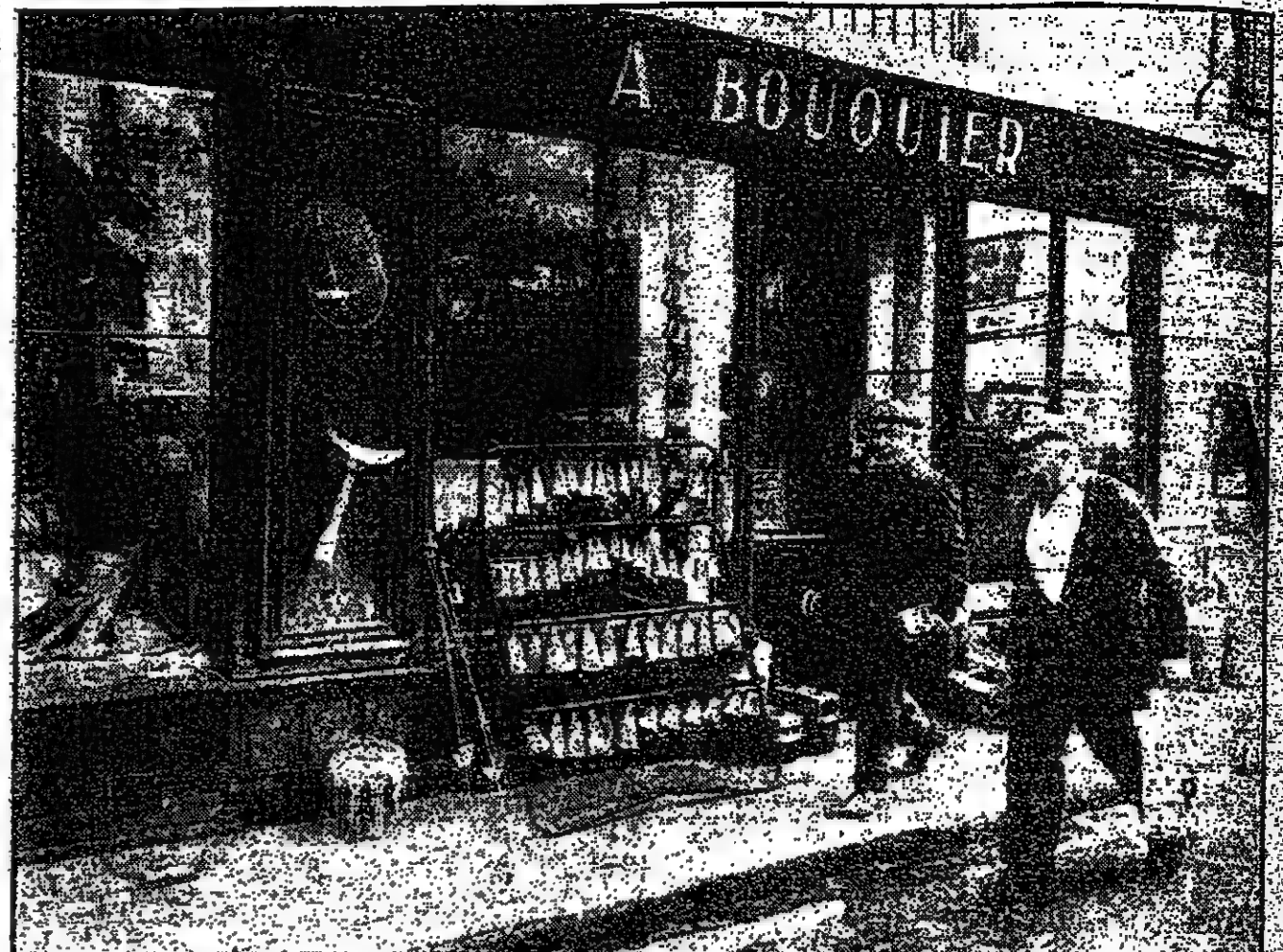
Global's reduction of £30 per person on all Italian ski holidays is extended to departures on February 13 and 27 from Gatwick, and 7 and 14 night holidays are still available in Madesimo, Santa Caterina, Livigno and Chiesia. A one week, half board holiday at the Persicore Miravalle would cost from £102.

Destination	Nights	Company	Price	Saves	Departures
SKING					
Pontresina, Sw.	14/1/b	Small World*	£229	£70	Feb 21
Adelboden, Sw.	14/1/b	Small World	£198	£70	Feb 21
Abdelboden	7/1/b	Small World	£159	£40	Feb 28
Zell am Ziller, Austria	7 h/b	Skiscene	£150	£23	Mar 3
Avoriaz, France	7 s/c	Skiscene	£109	£19	Mar 6 Luton
Crans Mont, Sw.	7 h/b	Skiscene	£159	£23	Mar 6 Luton
Madesimo, Italy	7 h/b	Skiscene	£149	£15	Mar 13
Meribel, France	7 s/c	Ski West	£130	£20	Feb 20
Courmayeur, Italy	7/1/b	Ski West	£189	£20	Feb 20
Zermatt, Switzerland	7/14/1/b	Ski West	£185/269	£40	Feb 27
Zermatt	7/14 s/c	Ski West	£125/180	£30	Feb 27
Courchevel, France	7/1/b	Ski West	£189	£40	Feb 27
Meribel	7/14/1/b	Ski West	£179/279	£40	Mar 6
Verbier, Switzerland	7 s/c	Ski West	£119	£20	Mar 6
Courmayeur	7/14 h/b	Ski West	£150/225	£30	Mar 8
Chiesia, Italy	7/14 h/b	Global	£102/132	£30	Feb 27
Santa Caterina, Italy	7/14 h/b	Global	£95/132	£30	Feb 27
Aprica, Italy	7/14/1/b	Swans	£101/190	£50	Mar departures
Caspoggio, Italy	7/14/1/b	Swans	£74/142	£50	Mar departures
Livigno, Italy	7/14/1/b	Swans	£131/236	£50	Mar departures
Passo Tonale, Italy	7/14 h/b	Swans	£114/199	£50	Mar departures

WINTER SUN					
Malta	14 h/b	Portland*	£159	£50	Feb 19 Luton
Malta	7 h/b	Portland	£119	£39	Feb 26 Luton
Portugal	7 b/b	Portland	£115	£10	Mar 2
Tunisia	7/1/b	Portland	£129	£17	Mar 5 Luton
Tunisia	14/1/b	Portland	£159	£21	Mar 5 Luton
St Lucia	29 b	Pegasus	£498	£58	Feb 27 Depart Luton Heathrow
Rome	3 b/b	Pegasus	£125	£15	Feb 19
Rome	3	Pegasus	£92	£15	Feb 19
Salzburg	3 b/b	Thomson	£79	£50	Feb 19/26 Luton
Salzburg	4 b/b	Thomson	£84	£50	Feb 22 Luton
Athens	7 b/b	Thomson	£121	£30	Feb 28 Luton
Florence	3 b/b	Thomson	£112	£25	Feb 26 Luton
Crete	7 h/b	Thomson	£197	£30	Mar 11 Luton
Gambia	7 h/b	Thomson	£261	£45	Mar 18 Luton

Flights are from Gatwick unless otherwise stated. All discounts are calculated on current brochure prices. *May only be booked directly. Portland telephone 01-358 5111. Small World telephone 01-240 3253.

A prospect to lift the spirits



You have a good idea of the characteristic Auvergne landscape from the top of the volcano named the Puy de Dome, which rises like a giant inverted teacup 4,000 feet above the high valley of the Limagne, itself nearly 1,000 feet above sea level.

The view is stupendous, 200 miles in all directions, covering one-eighth of all France. On the warm autumn day when I was there a blue haze blurred these far distances, but the chain of dead volcanoes of the Auvergne stood out, gently majestic, under the skin of green turf that covers the scars left by the convulsions that formed the Massif Central 50 million years ago. Like all high places they create an indelible impression of great age and calm.

The violent geological history is dramatised in what they call an audio-visual presentation in an underground cave at Volvic, well worth seeing if you do not suffer from claustrophobia, cold, or a conviction that you would learn more from a book.

Britons who know this part of France say "Ah, yes, the Auvergne," in the tone of one remembering pleasure. Its tourists got a powerful boost from the drinks commercial which exploited the songs of the Auvergne shepherds. But the only British I met were a coachload of disciples of the mystic philosopher Teilhard de Chardin, who grew up there.

The area in which I was travelling, the countryside outside Clermont Ferrand, is a beautiful, sparsely populated land of forests, pastures, lakes, hills, an all-year-round centre for an action holiday, for in the long, bright, cold winter, the summer places where you ride, walk, fish, camp, become centres of cross-country and downhill skiing. On this trip, however, my closest acquaintance was with old churches and food. My hosts overrode my appetite for the former, but judged the latter to be nice.

The Auvergne is dotted with magnificent Romanesque churches going back to the eleventh and twelfth centuries. For me these are places in which to sit quietly and think about, but I could not get away from well-meaning experts who wanted to tell me about the north transept. It is always better to take a guidebook which offers the same information in silence.

Judged by production figures, French farming may be inefficient. Those small farms that are so pleasant to look at, each with its woodpile, manure heap, stacks of hay and corn-cobs, horses hanging their noble heads over the gates and flocks of

poultry clucking about, have not changed for centuries. But the product certainly does not taste inefficient. It may be profligate to make 20 different cheeses in the Auvergne, but it is not by this standard that the French consider food — particularly cheese, which they regard, as they do their wines, with the intense respect due to a living creation that represents generations of patient skills.

My first meal was at the restaurant at Clermont Ferrand airport. (Imagine a visiting French journalist being taken to eat at Heathrow.) My hosts presented the selected cheeses, and described their separate qualities, with the proud smiles of parents introducing talented and prize-winning children. Their Joseph is St. Neaire, made since the dark ages in and round the village it is named for; there are still 700 small farmer-producers turning the stuff out by traditional methods. Whether these families will survive the growing tendency of the young to leave the land for industry is the problem the Auvergne lives with always.

I was there to taste as many of the finest local dishes as could comfortably be taken in during a four-day visit, an invitation that I did not need to have repeated in a loud voice. The most typical dish, not to be missed, is the "potee" ("Copieuse Potee Auvergnate" said the menu), a rich stew constructed round shin of pork

and sausage with new potatoes, cabbage, carrot, eaten with the light red wine of Chateaugay.

Another dish well worth the trip was rabbit stewed with and served with so many cloves of garlic it could have been called stewed garlic with rabbit sauce. The fragrance was ambrosial. This meal ended with a novelty for me; a cooked whole peach dusted with fragments of mint.

I enjoyed without reserve the range of freshwater fish — salmon, trout, crayfish and the pike resembles named Sandre and Pote. But to attempt to describe the taste of food is to risk breaking into the flushed and hectic prose of P.G. Wodehouse's novelist Rosie M. Banks. I say only that nobody complained or threw bread about during meals.

At the other end of the gastronomic possibilities I drank a glass of the thermal water which have bubbled from their source since the land settled into its present shape.

Daily Air France flights to Paris with Air Inter connections to Clermont Ferrand from £192 return. Or Heathrow to Paris and on by train.

Details of hotels, camping, holiday villages, summer and winter sports, etc, from French Government Tourist Office, 178 Piccadilly, London, W1V 0AL. (they like you to send 50p).

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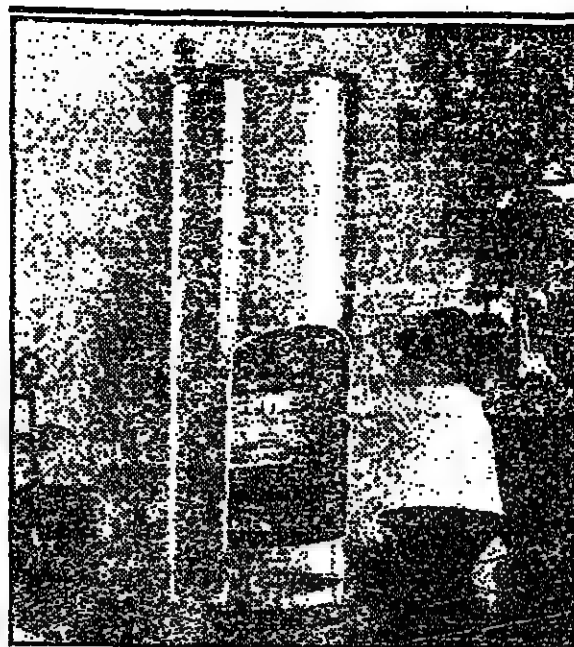
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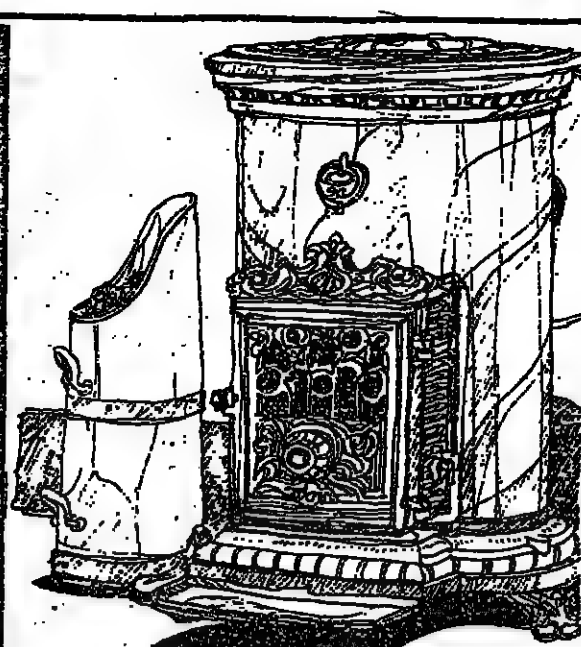
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Shoparound with Beryl Downing



The Pitler Studio stove, with or without back boiler, from £304.75 for the 6.5kw size.



The Godin oval stove, 30.3in high, burns wood or solid fuel. £258.75.

Fashion shapes these stoves

The bleak midwinter — don't be fooled by the sunshine — seems an odd time to open a shop devoted to stoves and central heating. In a well ordered world, everyone should have completed their heating installations somewhere about last September, and should have been stewing satisfactorily ever since.

It seems, however, that the newly fashionable stoves are as much of an impulse buy as Mars bars, but with a somewhat longer term energy output. And of course, there are always people like me, who need advice because their central heating was installed by a plumber's mate who appears to have knitted the pipes together — and dropped a few stitches to boot.

So The London Stove Centre which has just opened at 49 Chiltern Street, W1, provides a welcome and comprehensive service for everyone interested in solid fuel heating. There are already several shops offering antique stoves, but none in Central London which provides a complete range of modern ones and reproduction ones, plus all the fittings and any advice you may need on installation.

Kit Kershaw, who owns the centre, was converted to the idea

of solid-fuel stoves six years ago when the price of oil forced him to find an alternative form of heating his 25-roomed house in Hertfordshire. The stoves were so successful that he began to sell them and it was not long before he added to his British collection by importing stoves from America and Europe.

The stoves he enthuses about most — and until you have heard an engineer rave about one, you will never understand the five star fascination of an iron box on legs — are the hand-made cast-iron jobs, architect designed for Vermont Castings, New England. Thermally controlled, they will keep going for 20 hours on anthracite, or overnight on wood, and the style is "Georgian", not so much a stove as a piece of furniture that heats, says Mr Kershaw. There are three models, from £572.70 to £793.50.

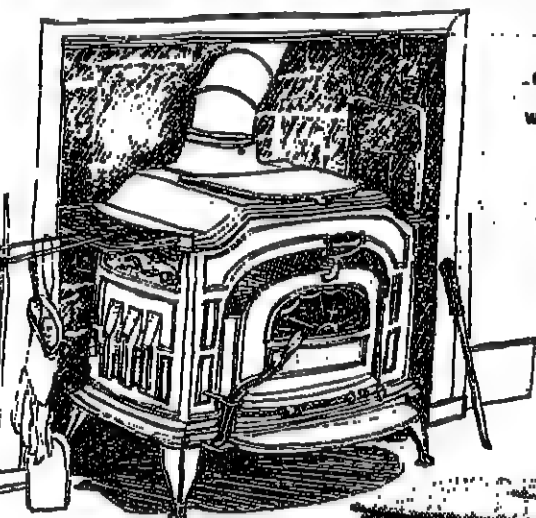
There are also some highly individual designs, a tiled Italian cupboard of a stove that looks as if it should contain cocktails rather than coal, and a German "kugel" stove that looks like an opera singer in a tight corset — and some decorative French models by Godin, based

on nineteenth-century designs and in attractive colours.

British stoves are well represented by the elegantly simple stainless steel column, the Pitler Studio anthracite stove — two sizes, with or without a back boiler, from £304.75 to £461.15 — and the Wenlock variety act, Little and Much.

Both are multi-fuel burners, the Little Wenlock producing an output of about 6.5kw for £218.50 (£276 with boiler for hot water) and the Much Wenlock producing 10kw for £322.25 (£425 with full central heating boiler). This boiler can also be plumbed into an existing gas or oil fired system to save on total fuel costs, along the same lines as the SFAS Link-Up, reported on this page last September.

Apart from recommending stoves and systems to suit your needs, The Stove Centre will advise on pipes, fittings, coal merchants — they will even recommend a chimney sweep in your area. Or, if you prefer to do it yourself, they have sets of rods the Clean Sweep kit — which extend to 30 ft at £15 (12 p & p) plus a special non-scratch brush, developed by Kit Kershaw, £6 (50p p & p). For further details and brochures of individual stoves, telephone 01-486 5168.



Above: The Resolute coal or wood burning stove will heat up to 7,000 cu ft. By Vermont Castings, £572.70. All the stoves shown are available from The London Stove Centre, 49 Chiltern Street, W1.

Right: The Wamsler K92C oven will also heat up to ten radiators of domestic hot water. Burns solid fuel, wood and peat. £1,109.75 in brown or white.



Left: One of the least expensive stoves. The Little Wenlock, output 6.5kw, can also heat the water. Burns coal, wood, solid fuels. From £218.



Mesh necklace in woven multi-colored nylon can be twisted and expanded to become more transparent, or stretched and attached to the shoulders. By Caroline Broadhead, £110 at the V&A craft shop. Photo by Charles Thomson.

Flashes of inspiration

Modern jewelry that leaps and spirals with flashes of brilliant colour, like a jazz trumpeter in orbit, is on display at the Victoria & Albert Museum craft shop until March 4. It is the work of two of our most innovative jewellers, Caroline Broadhead and Eric Spiller.

Caroline Broadhead uses monofilament nylon to create flexible necklaces like basketweave collar and armpieces stretching from wrist to shoulder like multi-coloured sleeves. Also on show are examples of her tufted jewelry — painted wood bangles, circular, triangular and square, set with soft nylon bristles and worn sandwiched together in pairs. Prices are from £44 for a "push-together" tufted necklace, £63 for a single bracelet.

Eric Spiller's work concentrates on the interplay of colour and reflection of light on various surfaces, using intermingled circles of transparent nylon, PVC, stainless steel and aluminium, anodized in a variety of bright colours. He is showing a series of brooches from £15 to £55 and bracelets at £47.

The Craft Shop at the V & A is open Mondays to Thursdays 10 am to 5.30 pm, Saturdays 10 am to 5.15 pm and Sundays 2.30 pm to 5.15 pm. It is closed on Fridays.

Love that rather special cake

I have just eaten my heart out. It tasted of sugar and brandy, which has nothing to do with the slow fermentation you suspect but simply that the heart in question was a particularly delicious Valentine's cake.

It arrived rather too late for me to tell you about it in time for tomorrow, but the makers have just started a small home-made cake company and will invent confections for every occasion.

Invent is the operative word — these cakes are laced with imagination as well as stuffed with fruit, and if you want Jonathan Rhind to design something suitable for a children's party his first reaction will be to ask whether the food is required to be thrown or not.

He and his partner Amanda Lines, who is a trained cook and has been concentrating on directors' luncheons until now, will make any sort of "theme" cake you could imagine, tropical ones, underwater ones, children's party cakes with a full working merry-go-round on top. A simple 8in, 4lb fruit cake costs £10 (plus £2.50 delivery in the London area). A space rocket or a ship is around £15.

For more details telephone Rhind & Lines, 01-253 6532 during the day or 01-334 8511 evenings or weekends.

Another specialist in decorative cakes, cakes recently at 66 Lower Sloane Street, London SW1, Anne Fayer combines skills in cake making and in flower arrangement, having spent ten years at Searcy Tansey's and two at the London School of Floristry and Constance Spry.

Weddings are her favourite subject as they give her the opportunity to design a cake painted with flowers to match the bridal bouquet, but she also does all sorts of novelty iced sponge cakes in the shape of telephones, typewriters and hamburgers; she has even made a full size replica of James Hunt's broken leg in plaster cast, with graffiti.

About a week's notice is needed for a complicated cake. Simple iced cakes start at £7 (no delivery, you must collect or they will send in a taxi) to around £80 for a three-tier wedding cake. Telephone 01-730 6277.



The very latest tile

Spending a night on the tiles has always struck me as an unnecessarily uncomfortable pursuit but these days, I have discovered, it can be tolerably aesthetic. This has nothing to do with my advancing years but simply because I have just met a designer who produces tiles that are literally, pretty as pictures.

Her name is Christina Sheppard and ever since she attended her first tile drawing class in Paris at the malleable age of six she has been mad about drawing.

So her tiles are decorated with no ordinary, stamped out designs, but with meticulously composed illustrations.

The technique she mainly uses is scratch — literally a scratching through the glaze — which is particularly versatile and allows a great variety of subjects and colours. There are 50 different pictures in her series of country tiles — two are illustrated — and they are available at £2 each from the Best of British, Museum Street, London, W1, Domus, Muswell Hill, the Lock Shop, Camden Lock, and That New Shop, Hampstead. Also available in Liverpool, Norfolk, Suffolk and Tunbridge Wells. For stockists telephone 01-405 9966.

Apart from these, Christina Sheppard produces more conventional designs of animals, birds, fruit and fish and also blue and white brushstroke designs, like traditional Dutch tiles. She will undertake individual commissions for private houses and for public buildings; one of her most recent was a 9 ft x 8 ft mural for the Shakespeare Centre, Stratford-upon-Avon.

If you would like to discuss your ideas with her, you can see her either in Doughty Street, London WC1 or at Wood Farm in Suffolk. Please telephone first to make an appointment: 01-405 9966 or 0728-831 131.

Well-padded industry

There was a time when I was taking evening classes in upholstery at the same time as studying for an external degree in social psychology. So penetrating was my insight into the human mind that it did not occur to me until some time later that as I was making my couch so should I lie on it. I have never picked up my webbing stretcher since.

My half-finished sofa and I would benefit enormously, I am sure, from the Upholstery Weekends offered by Sandra Rowney at her Norfolk farmhouse. She runs an upholstery business and she teaches traditional methods using horsehair and hessian — not

that dreadful pre-formed foam.

Weekend students arrive for Friday dinner. Tuition is from 9.30 am to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays and all the materials you need will be in stock, plus a selection of fabrics and furniture if you haven't a piece you are already working on.

The weekend, including meals, is £50, or you can go for a day's tuition, including coffee, and lunch for £15. More details from Sandra Rowney, Victoria Farmhouse, Private Road, Earsham (nr Bungay), Norfolk. Telephone Bungay 4360.

Handworkers who prefer a slightly more delicate approach might like to consider Tuesday morning courses on tapestry at The Pearson School of Needlepoint in London. It offers basic instruction on canvas work techniques and stitches and caters for beginners and

intermediate needlewomen.

The course lasts four weeks and costs £37.50, plus £11.50 for materials. There are several other courses — dates and details from Ehrman, 2122 Vicarage Gate, London W8 4AA. 01-937 4568.

For those outside London, Ehrman has just produced its second tapestry catalogue. It features some very attractive designs, including a delightful sampler and an elegant chair seat by the Royal School of Needlework, eight cushions by Kaffe Fassett (Turkish lace is particularly pretty) and three tree designs from Madeira.

All the designs are available mail order and the catalogue is free from the Vicarage Gate address, where Ehrman has just opened a new shop devoted to needlework — just send a stamped addressed envelope at least 9in x 6in.

Gardening/Roy Hay

Ride on for the right finish

Last year saw much fierce competition with "no holds barred" advertising in the small to medium-sized lawn mower market but there was really not much radical development to report. Nor is there for the moving season now approaching.

Rather it has been a struggle between British, American and Japanese manufacturers vying with each other as regards quality and price.

Starting with the largest machines we have an ever-increasing choice of ride-on mowers. Small garden tractors are increasingly popular for grass cutting, also for towing leaf sweepers, cultivators, snow-thrusters and trucks. Many large estates, I am sure, are under-capitalized, trying to cope with a workload with inadequate machines, consequently under-using the labour — paid or unpaid — available for garden maintenance.

Compare the choice of garden tractor machines offered by the British firm Westwood, with the imported American tractors. Shop around, too, once you have

decided on the machine of your choice, as some distributors are offering a free grass catcher with their large machines worth up to £150, which is not to be sneezed at when we are considering machines costing about £1,000.

Turning now to small- and medium-sized mowers, 12in to 21in machines, the old arguments still go on — rotary versus cylinder mowers, and those with or without grass catchers. There are, too, the "hover" type versus the wheeled machines and the wheeled rotary mowers versus those with a roller which gives the "banded cut".

In the welter of competitive machines it is good to see Webbs coming back energetically with a new generation of mowers of their traditional excellence. Their 14in, 18in and 21in motor mowers, giving 79 cuts to the yard are excellent. For a small lawn their 12in Witch hand mower with eight blades is easy to push and gives a "bowling green" finish.

The "hover" or "air cushion" mower market now presents an almost embarrassing choice since some of the Flymo patents ran out several years ago. I found the new Flymo TL 12in petrol air cushion machine and their 11in Flymo XE electric machines, the latter with a grass catcher, fine for a small garden. There are, of course, hover machines cut-

ting up to 21in width. Atco and Qualcast, of course, are fierce competitors of Flymo and it is well worth considering their ranges of both petrol and electric cylinder and hover machines.

I have not been much moved by the battle between those who advocate leaving the mowings to lie on the lawn and those who say we should pick them up either with a grass catcher or with a separate leaf sweeper. My own preference has always been to collect the mowings except in hot dry weather.

Very competitive in price is the Qualcast "Concorde" electric range, which includes, wheeled, rotary and cylinder mowers. The "Suffolk Punch" mowers, also from Qualcast, from 12in to 17in and from £144 to £311, are excellent machines. To think that I bought my first powered mower, a 14in "Suffolk Punch" in 1953 for 29 guineas! How times change!

As in many other spheres Japanese competition is really hitting the home producers. The Honda machines are of good quality, easy to start and competitive as regards price. Honda's rotary machines do not have rollers, so no banded cut. If you wish, as many do, to buy British, try to compare Honda machines with those of, say, Mountfield, the pioneers of rotary mowers,

and look particularly at their M5 machine, which has now been upgraded from a 4 to a 5 hp motor.

Hayter, too, have a proud record in rotary mowers and the highest esteem by both amateur and professional users for many years. If the professionals, who really punish machines, think so highly of the Hayter mowers we should certainly consider them — I had one once and it used to start like a charm.

In recent years we have seen a proliferation of lawn accessories, spiking and slicing machines and trimmers which cut grass in awkward corners, under bushes, around tree trunks or places where ordinary mowers cannot go. The trimmers, mains electric, battery or petrol engine-operated, are all efficient and it really depends how much and what kind of work — light or heavy trimming — is to be done, which one you choose.

For a garden of reasonable size and fairly light trimming I would choose a machine with a rechargeable battery.

For spiking and aerating lawns there are the "auto-spike" tools, in various sizes, to attach to 12in to 24in machines, available from Bob Andrews, Sunningdale, Berkshire. These make light work of this heavy chore, so necessary for a perfect lawn.

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole

A finer shred of peel

● Warm the sugar for 20 to 30 minutes in a very cool oven before adding it to the fruit. This helps it to dissolve faster and improves the taste and colour of the marmalade.

● Make sure that the sugar dissolves completely before boiling for a set or it may crystallize later in the preserve.

● To test whether setting point has been reached, usually after 10 to 20 minutes of rapid boiling, drop a little of the marmalade on a cold plate. When it stiffens and forms a skin almost immediately it will set.

● Wash the fruit well to remove dirt and chemicals.

● Ensure that the jars, whether new or recycled, are spotlessly clean. Heat them before filling in a very cool oven (110°C/225°F, gas mark ¼).

Seville orange marmalade
Makes about 3.2 kg (7lbs)
900g (2 lbs) Seville oranges
2 lemons
2.25 litres (4 pints) water
1.8 kg (4 lbs) granulated or preserving sugar

Line a sieve with a square of muslin or a well boiled handkerchief and set it over a bowl. Cut the fruit in halves, squeeze out the juice and strain it into the bowl. Use a teaspoon to scoop the pips and ragged pieces of pith into the sieve. Tie the muslin into a loose bag and put it in the preserving pan with the juice.

Cut the orange peel only into fine strips about 2.5 cm (1 in) long and add them to the pan with the water. Bring to the boil, reduce the heat and simmer gently until the peel is very tender and the liquid has reduced to about half its original volume. This usually takes at least two hours.

Lift the muslin bag out of the liquid and squeeze as much as possible of its pectin-rich juice back into the pan. Now add the warmed sugar and stir the mixture on a low heat until the sugar has dissolved completely. Raise the heat and boil the marmalade rapidly. After 10 minutes begin to test for setting, and repeat the test every minute or two until a set is reached. Remove the pan from the heat and skim off

any froth immediately. Allow the marmalade to cool a little, stir it well and pour it into warm jars.

Lemon and lime marmalade is especially good on very fresh dark rye bread. The recipe can, of course, be made with lemons only, and I have included it here for anyone who cannot find Seville oranges now, or wants to make marmalade after their short season which usually finishes at the end of this month.

Lemon and lime marmalade
Makes about 3.2kg (7lbs)
450g (1lb) lemons
450g (1lb) limes
2.25 litres (4 pints) water
1.8kg (4lbs) granulated sugar

Line a sieve with a square of muslin or a well boiled handkerchief and set it over a bowl. Cut the fruit in halves, squeeze out the juice and strain it into the bowl. Use a teaspoon to scoop out the pips and as much as possible of the pith into the sieve. Tie the muslin in a loose bag and put it in the preserving pan with the juice.

Cut the lemon and lime peel into very fine strips about 2.5cm (1in) long and add them to the pan with the water. Proceed exactly as for the Seville orange marmalade.

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The Archduke: full of surprises

dreds of railway arches. Clearly they provide ample opportunity for skilful architects to convert at no great cost into high quality spaces. Is that not a challenge worth taking up?

any donation would be useful to the donor for tax purposes.

From April 15-30 we have the strong Phillips and Drew Kings tournament at County Hall, London, co-sponsored by the G.L.C. At the last Kings tournament, in 1980, we had the challenger for the world championship, Viktor Korchnoi playing in his usual

April 24-May 6, we have an embarrassment of riches.

Last week I gave a game from Wijk aan Zee in which John Nunn shone. Here is another example of sparkling play from that tournament.

White: V. Hort. Black: M. Chandler. Caro Kann Defense.

From May 4-22, there is a great tournament at Bujino in Yugoslavia and the following month the Italians hold an interesting double-round

1 P-K4	P-Q83
2 P-Q4	P-Q4
3 N-Q2	P-P
4 N-P	B-B4
5 N-N3	B-N3
6 P-KR4	P-KR3
7 N-B3	N-Q2
8 P-R5	B-R2
9 B-Q3	B-B

South might have taken the first trick with the ♠A followed by the ♠K instead of the other way round, she switched to a club, enabling Granovetta to save what could have been a crucial trick. 500 to Great Britain.

White room

W	N	E	S
Rodríguez J	Mitchell	First	G Moss
No	2♣	No	1♠
No	2♦	No	3♠
No	4♠	No	No
No	—	—	—

Opening lead ♠7

When Rodrigue continued with a second heart, declarer played the VK, a doubtful decision because good players usually duck when they hold the Ace unless they hold the Queen as well. Notice that if declarer had played the VJ and subsequently guessed the position of the ♠A, she could have made two tricks and won the match!

England did even better in the strong Wijk aan Zee tournament soon after. That was a category 13 tournament, two grades higher than at Hastings. Grandmaster John Nunn achieved his biggest success so far by sharing first place with the Soviet grandmaster Yuri Balashov, ahead of and beating such great players as the former world champion, Mikhail Tal, and the Dutch grandmaster, Jan Timman, who is now second to the world champion, Anatoly

tournament in Turin in which the world champion again figures, the other seven grandmasters being Anderssen, Hort, Hubner, Larsen, Nunn, Portisch and Timman. The organizers say the idea is to see if Karpov can demonstrate he is world champion at tournament play as well as in matches.

In July the successor to the IBM grandmaster tournament will be held in Holland, where another great tourna-

He cannot now play 17...
0-0-0; on account of 18...
Q-B4 when the QRP falls but
this pawn move still further
weakens his pawn structure
and better was 17... P-R5.

18 N-K5	0-0
19 P-KN4	P-B4
20 P-N5	

And not 20. QxP which
would present Black with a
ready-made attack by ...Zu...
KR-N1.

20	P-B5
21 Q-KN3	PxP
22 BxNP	N-K5

The opening lead was consistent with our style of leading the middle of three small cards. Sometimes, as here, a player will be unsure of his partner's holding in the suit. It was perfectly possible that West had the K97, in which case a failure to lead the Q♣ could cost the defence its diamond trick. Luckily I guessed correctly when I played the ♠2. Declarer reasonably played a heart, but unwisely selected the ♥2. When Rodrigue won the A he knew that my ♥7 must be a singleton. For in this setting it is mandatory to check with the ♥7. Since declarer had played the ♥9, conceding the ♥2, Rodrigue

was rained by the candidates' turnout from events. Not Gail Moss. She won my admiration for her persistence. After a very fine, but unsuccessful, attempt to recover, she fished the 4.5. Why? The best hope was to find me with the 4A10x and originally three trumps. To take advantage of that distribution she needed two entries to dummy. That apparently purposeless finessing was a far-fighted play aimed at creating a vital extra entry.

To summarise my final thoughts on the BBC's first experiment, I cannot improve on the words of the great golfing sage "Well made. Scope. Slowly into stride. Ran on well. Sure to improve".

The rest of the year holds out great promise. From April 4-16 we have the four-yearly world championship for blind players at Hastings. Since chess is one of the few games that the blind can play as well as sighted players, as the sighted, and in view of the strong rivalry between the Russians and the Yugoslavs, this should be a most interesting event. The Braille Chess Association still needs about £6,000 to cover the cost of the tournament. Donations should be sent to the treasurer, David Milson, at 40, Westfield, Birmingham B3 1PQ. Since this is a charitable organization,

The Tungsram firm intends to hold an international tournament in England, probably from September to October. This is the same firm that held a great tournament at Baden bei Wien in Austria in 1980. Then the first prize was shared by Spassky and Beljasky, with Nunn coming a fine third.

What with the Olympiad at Lucerne (from the end of October until November 17) and a number of other, lesser grandmaster events such as the Bad Oeynhausen in the month, Dortmund in March and Bad Kissingen from

A mistake that precipitates disaster. Correct was the pawn sacrifice 22... P-B6.
 23 R-N1 B-B3
 If 23... QxR? 24. R-N1 B-B3; 25. Qx3. P-R2; 26. N-N4. K-R1; 27. P-R6. P-B3; 28. P-P ch. QxP? 29. R-R1 ch. K-N1; 30. R-B6 ch. etc.
 24 P-B3 P-B3
 If 24... QxR? 25. R-N1. Q-R2; 26. P-R6, and if then 25... P-N3; 27. N-N4, and Black is in a position to sacrifice the Bishop of aphiosition. Or if 25... KR-O1? 27. QxPch. O-R2; 28. RxQ ch. K-B1; 29. RxpCh. K-K1; 30. P-R7.
 25 P-B6 resigned
 A pretty finish; if 25. P-R6; 26. P-R7 ch. K-R1; 27. N-N6 mate.

Bridge/Jeremy Flint

Did you desert JR?

The BBC's first televised bridge match ended with Great Britain winning a sustained American counter-attack to win by the narrow margin of 7 IMPs. More important than the result was the reaction of players throughout the country to the first bridge television. The bare statistics reveal that the average audience was one and a quarter million. As this was achieved in competition with rival attractions such as *Dad's Army*, we have considered a gratifying response.

I am grateful to those readers who wrote to me or the BBC offering constructive criticism. The BBC plan a second series, and your comments will undoubtedly receive careful consideration.

The most frequent complaint was that the cards were difficult to see, especially in the diagrams illustrating the play. Although the red presents particular problems on television, as the colour tends to "run", the obvious answer of enlarging the cards is impractical, because the effect would be to make the screen appear cluttered.

Many viewers thought the play went too fast, making it

hard to follow. Some said it was unnatural for the players to smile or alter their facial expression. But if one accepts the soliloquies it would surely be flat and unnatural for the players to intone their lines with a deadpan face. Others thought that by including some very elementary comments, the programme would irritate part of its committed audience of good bridge players.

Finally, there was the journalist who could see no merit in the series at all. I

Black room

Board 63. Love all. Dealer West.

♠ K J 3
 ♥ A J 5 3
 ♦ J 10
 ♣ 9 5

♠ 10 2
 ♥ A K 10 8 4
 ♦ 9 7 8
 ♣ Q 12

♠ Q 8 3
 ♥ 7
 ♦ 9 8 4 3 2
 ♣ A 10 4 3

♠ 9 2
 ♥ A 8
 ♦ 9 7 6
 ♣ A 8

♠ 8 7
 ♥ 6 5 4 3
 ♦ 8 7 6 5
 ♣ 8 7

W Granovetta 2V No	N Pat Davies No No	E Silverman No No	S Nicola Gardner Double No
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Opening lead ♣ 4

could not help thinking that he was lucky Marconi did not have to present his invention to such a critic, for it would surely have been dismissed in a sentence, "Quite useless, it crackles!"

I make no apology for restructuring the dramatic hand which finally decided the match because there were a number of interesting points that the commentator did not have time to mention.

Two boards earlier the Americans had taken the lead for the first time when Silverman had made his contract of Three Clubs doubled, to earn a substantial swing. For that reason, Granovetta was possibly impromptu to introduce a new bid, the Silverman suit. South won the opening lead with the ♠K and cashed the ♠A, on which North contributed the ♠10, in an attempt to attract a spade switch.

South preferred the safe continuation of the ♥9. West took the ♥A and continued with the ♥10. When North won with the ♥J it was her time to find a side switch. Possibly reflecting that

South might have taken the trick with the ♠A followed by the ♠K instead of the other way round, she switched to a club, enabling Granovetta to save what could have been a crucial trick. 500 to Great Britain.

White room

W	N	E	S
Rodrigue J	Mitchell	Finn	G Moore
No	No	No	3♣
No	2♠	No	4♠
No	4♠	No	—
No	—	No	—

Opening lead ♠7

The opening lead was consistent with our style of leading the middle of three small cards. Sometimes, as here, a player will be suspicious of his partner's holdings in the suit. It was perfectly possible that West had ♠K97, in which case the failure to play the ♠Q could cost the defence its diamond trick. Luckily I guessed correctly when I played the ♠Q. If declarer reasonably played a heart — but unwise selected the ♠A when Rodrigue won the ♠7 he knew that my ♠7 must be a singleton, for in this setting it is mandatory to echo with a doubtoner if I declared hearts played the ♠9, concealing the ♠7. Rodrigue

would have been forced to guess the distribution.

When Rodrigue continued with a second heart, declarer played the VK, a doubtful decision because good players usually duck when they hold the Ace unless they hold the Queen. But I noticed that he declared had played the VK and subsequently guessed the position of the ♠A, she could have made ten tricks and won the match!

When I ruffed the VK, some players would have been rattled by the calamitous turn of events. Not I. I told Shm. my dilemma. He said I had made a very fine, if unsuccessful, attempt to recover. She finessed the ♠J. Why? The best hope was to find me with the ♠AQJx and originally three trumps. To make advantage of the ♠A and the ♠K and two entries to dummy. That apparently purposeless finesse was a far-fighted play aimed at creating a vital extra entry.

To summarise my final thoughts on the BBC's final experiment, I cannot improve on the brevity of racing target. "Well, it's a little slow to stride. Ran on well. Sure to improve."

England did even better in the strong Wijk aan Zee tournament soon after. This was a category 13 tournament, two grades higher than at Hastings. Grandmaster John Nunn, who has had the biggest success so far by sharing first place with the Soviet grandmaster Yuri Balashov, ahead of and beating such great players as the former world champion Mikhail Tal, the Dutch grandmaster, Jan Timman, who is now second to the world champion, Anatoly Karpov, in the Elo ratings.

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He cannot now play 17... 0-0; on account of 18. P-Q4 because the QP falls, so this pawn move still further weakens his pawn structure and better was 17... P-R5.

18 N-K5	0-0
19 Q-N3	P-B4
20 P-N5	

And not 20. QxP which would allow Black to make a ready-made attack by 20... KR-N1.

20	P-B5
21 Q-KN3	PxP
22 BxP	N-K5

A mistake that precipitates disaster. Correct was 21. P-B6.

23 R-N4	B-B5
---------	------

If 23... QxR; 24. R-N1, Bxb; 25. QxQ, R-Q2, N-N4, K-R1; 27. P-R6, P-E3; 28. RxP ch, QxP; 29. R-R1 ch, K-N1; 30. N-R6 ch, etc.

24 QxR	P-B3
--------	------

If 24... QxR; 25. R-N1, Q-R2, 26. P-R6, and if then 26... P-N3; 27. N-N4, and Black dies of asphyxiation or if 26... KR-Q1, QxQ ch, QxQ; 28. RxQ ch, K-B1; 29. RxP ch, K-K1; 30. P-R7.

25 P-R6 resigned

A pretty finish; if 25... PxQ; 26. P-R7 ch, K-R1; 27. N-N6 mate.

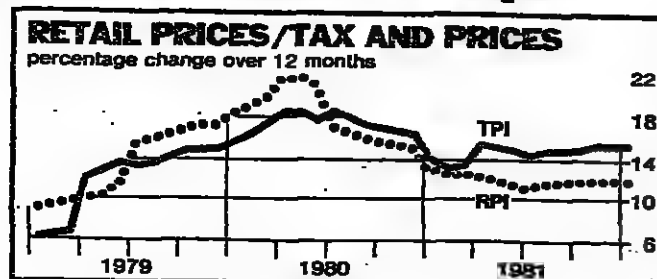
Unit Trust Prices—change on the week

this table is published on Wednesday and Saturday—FT change on week 570.5–7.6 (1.3%).

[illegible]

BUSINESS NEWS

Index rises 15.6pc



The Government's tax and price index (TPI) has risen 15.6 per cent over the last year. This is the amount by which wages would have to increase to maintain the purchasing power. The TPI measures not only movements in prices (the retail price index rose 12 per cent in the last year) but changes in direct taxes as well. It reflects the fact that the Chancellor did not increase personal allowances in line with inflation in his last Budget, as well as the increase in employees' national insurance contributions.

Ronson still wants ACC

Mr Gerald Ronson said last night that his Heron Corporation was more determined than ever to gain control of Associated Communications Corporation amid reports that ACC directors, headed by Lord Grade, have reaffirmed their backing for rival bidder Mr Robert Holmes a Court, the Australian. Heron thought it had gone most of the way to convincing ACC directors it could meet objections to its bid. But yesterday the directors said they would stick with Mr Holmes a Court with their 60 per cent of the voting shares.

Pemex to raise \$2,000m

Pemex, the Mexican state oil corporation, is to raise \$2,000m from a group of banks. Half the amount will be used to consolidate short-term issues made last year. It is one of the biggest funding operations the Euromarket has seen.

EEC seeks hard line on Japan

The EEC Commission wants the community's trade dispute with Japan to be referred to a special panel under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The commission decided yesterday to propose the unprecedented step of invoking Article 23 of the GATT. The move, if approved by the EEC Council of Ministers, would represent a considerable toughening of the community's approach to its massive and growing trade imbalance with Japan.

Fewer mortgages

Building society net receipts in January were the lowest since June 2, totalling £356m. This increase of £153m over December and nearly £300m higher than November. High mortgage rates, the icy weather and competition from the clearing banks cut the sum promised to home buyers to £685m, the smallest amount for two years. A total of 43,000 home loans were promised in January, against 47,000 in December and 53,000 in November.

Technology move

A new British company, Technology and Innovation Exchange, which brings together inventors of high technology products and financiers, is finalizing its plans to expand in the United States.

MARKET SUMMARY

Takeovers hold the stage

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 570.5 down 1.7, FT Gilt 65.04 down 0.30, FT All Share 327.11 down 1.62, Bargains 19,021.

Shares involved in takeovers and deals continued to be the centre of attention as the market ended the long, three-week account on a dull note with the FT index closing down 1.7 at 570.5.

After a hectic week, long-dated gilts ended 24 down with short-dates 24 easier in steady two-way trading and relief at no new lap.

Feasible and distribution group Inter-City Investments leapt from 19 1/2 to 33 1/2 after Carr Sebago picked up a 25.74 per cent stake from the directors and family interests at 10p per share on behalf of Metan Investment Establishment.

Mr Joseph Harris, chairman of Inter-City, said that Metan, a trading company, would be able to provide financial help for expansion and the company has been told that Metan would not increase its stake.

Among leading shares ICI closed unchanged at 348p, ahead of figures later this month, while other leading shares showed losses of between 2p and 6p. Imperial Group was an exception, up 2 1/2p on 87 1/2p, reflecting Thursday's figures.

Pleasurama rose 28p to 371p on news of the £4.6m Maxims casino acquisition while suggestions that there would be no increase in VAT on package tours prompted a 19p boost to Horizon Travel at 352p.

First Castle Electronic accompanied news of a £2.5m

rights issue to finance expansion plans with a forecast of higher dividends in the current year and the shares closed unchanged at 90p. The terms are one for one at 30p.

Dowry staged a strong rally, up 7p at 122p after the previous day's weakness stemming from the disappointing figures.

Acquisitions this week supported HAT Group, up 3 1/2p at 81p, and Home Charm, 3p better at 137p. Erskine House climbed 10p to 54p following a large put-through.

In stores Owen Owen were a feature with the shares rising 5p to 22 1/2p amid rumours of a bid once again, but little stock changed hands.

Leading food shares were busy, although not reflected in price movements. Huntley & Palmer was up 4p at 111p in continuing anticipation of either an improved offer from Rumbold or a new bid.

Tunnel Holdings B shares put on 5p to 58 1/2p ahead of the terms to be offered by Rio Tinto Zinc following its acquisition of Thos Ward. But further consideration of its Laker-acquisition clipped 3p from Greenall Whitley at 112p.

Rumours of a rights issue knocked 5p from Unitech at 295p but company secretary Mr John Leithbridge said there was no truth in the suggestions.

Equity turnover of February 11 was £183.195m (17,678 bargains)

Gareth Davis

CURRENCIES

The dollar was firm ahead of the weekly US money supply figures.

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.9400 down 95 points, Index 91.8 unchanged, DM 4.3900, FF 11.1125

Dollar Index 112.7 up 0.7, DM 2.3847 up 185 pts, Gold \$378.75 down \$6.06

MONEY MARKETS

Treasury Bill rate rose from 13.57 to 13.78 per cent at the weekly tender. The Bank bought £501m of bills to relieve a £500m market shortage. Its dealing rates were unchanged.

Domestic rates: Base rates 14%, 3-month interbank 14 1/2%, 14 1/2%

Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 16 1/2-16 1/2, 3 month DM 10 1/2-10 1/2, 3 month FF 15 1/2-15 1/2

OTHER EXCHANGES

Hongkong/Hang Seng Index 1,270.04 up 13.47, Tokyo/Nikkei Dow Jones Average 7,990.29 down 70.82

COMMODITIES

A nearby supply tightness buoyed Robusta coffees which were further helped by positive chart readings. March coffee rose by 25s to £1,338.50 a tonne, while the May position fetched £1,317, an increase of £48. These are the highest levels for 18 months. Trading was brisk later in the day when sterling weakened against the dollar, adding more upward pressure to prices.

Copper was quiet and closed almost unchanged from Thursday despite Rudolf Wolff saying in its annual metal review that record price of £1,400 a tonne by the end of the year cannot be ruled out. Three months high grade copper closed at £895.50 a tonne.

Nickel fared better, however. Three months ended the day at £3,175 a tonne, the highest since last September. It had reached £3,200 during trading.

Co-op fears grow as merger fails

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

One of the biggest prospective mergers in the Co-op's history has been called off, scuttling a plan for a South East Co-operative Society, which would have become the second largest retailer in the movement.

Instead, Woolwich-based Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society and South Suburban Co-operative Society, with headquarters in Croydon, will go their separate ways dogged by increasing financial problems.

There have been growing fears within the hard-pressed Co-op movement that unless these two societies merge for strength, either or both may eventually be driven to turn for help to the Manchester-based CRS, the biggest retailer

in the movement, historically has been a rescue service for societies in difficulties.

Royal Arsenal's chief executive, Mr Granville Lewis, in a formal notice announced that the merger had been called off by South Suburban that after six months of talks, Royal Arsenal was disappointed and regretted the decision, it was stated.

The attempt to construct a South East society, taking in much of South London, Berkshire, Surrey, Sussex and Kent, had already suffered a blow earlier last year when the Invicta Co-operative Society, also operating south of the Thames, pulled out of tripartite merger discussions.

But there was pressure on Royal Arsenal and South Suburban still to

join forces because of their escalating trading losses. South Suburban, with a turnover of more than £56m, had a trading loss before tax of £400,000 at the beginning of 1980 followed by an increased deficit of £1.8m at the beginning of 1981.

Royal Arsenal, already the third largest retailer in the Co-op movement with a turnover of more than £160m at the beginning of 1981 had a trading loss of £1.8m after a loss the previous year of £1.6m.

Both societies in recent years have resorted to realize assets such as property to bring them into surplus. Returns by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, the main supplier to the retail societies, have already indicated that in the first half of last year the Co-op's share of the

packaged grocery market has declined. Both Royal Arsenal and South Suburban are likely to have been hit in common with most of the retail societies.

It was after three years of mounting losses that the former London Co-operative Society threw in its lot with CRS at the beginning of last year.

A merger would have offered the chance of rationalization as well as providing greater financial muscle for developing more modern retail outlets. It is believed that South Suburban pulled out of the talks because it seemed unlikely that the necessary majority would be needed among society members who have been forthcoming.

Whitehall expect fall in inflation as rises slow

By Melvyn Westlake

Price inflation in Britain has now peaked and should slowly decline in the coming year. The year-on-year increase in prices was 12 per cent in January for the third consecutive month.

Price increases have been boosted by the recent exceptional bad weather. Seasonal food rose by nearly 8 per cent in January, and accounted for over a third of the 0.6 per cent increase in the retail price index last month.

There is now confidence in Whitehall that inflation is on a downward trend. If seasonal food is excluded, the rise in prices last month was the smallest for 17 months. Had it not been for the bad weather last month, inflation would have resumed the decline that was interrupted last summer by the fall in the value of the pound against other currencies.

This push-up of export costs and sent a new wave of price increases rippling through the economy.

The effect of this has been to put the Government's counter-inflation policy back by about a year. The Treasury is now predicting that price increases will be averaging about 10 per cent by the end of this year. But the outcome this year could still be influenced by the measures introduced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, in his Budget in three weeks.

Public-sector price increases also reflect the generally better picture. Nationalised industry prices are now increasing at an annual rate of 10.9 per cent, compared with 11.1 per cent a month ago. This means that public sector prices are now rising more slowly than prices in general, unlike the situation in the later months of 1981 when nationalised industry price increases were one of the main factors contributing to general inflation.

The Department of Employment reported yesterday that fresh vegetables, milk and meat showed some of the strongest price increases last month. Rises were also reported for newspapers, beer and cigarettes. These increases were partially offset by the withdrawal of some supplementary rate increases for householders and owners of commercial premises, as well as falls in the prices of petrol and many items of clothing.

There are a number of promising indications that the underlying downward trend in inflation will now be resumed. Wholesale prices are now rising more slowly, and the rate of increase in industry's raw material and fuel costs has also turned down. More importantly, wage settlements are now running at a much lower level.

Upsurge in dollar knocks sterling

By John Whitmore

The dollar closed the week strongly on foreign exchange markets as dealers took up positions ahead of the weekly money supply figures.

It was also boosted by speculation that the Federal Reserve might choose the long holiday weekend to announce a rise in discount rate if the money supply figures are bad.

In European trading, the dollar quickly rose to DM2.3885 yesterday morning before easing back to close at DM2.3847, a net gain of 1.85 pence on the day and almost 4 pence on the week.

The pound also suffered from the dollar's strength, dipping to £1.9330 at one stage. It closed a net 95 points down at £1.9400.

The loss of almost 2 cents on the week takes the pound back down to the levels ruling late last October. However, sterling's value against a basket of major currencies remains firm.

With Eurodollar interest rates back above the 16 per cent level United Kingdom money markets have become increasingly cautious this week.

Most period rates have risen by about 1/4 per cent. At yesterday's weekly Treasury Bill tender the average rate of discount at which 91 day bills were allotted rose from 13.57 to 13.78 per cent.

The Bank of England, however, continues to help keep the level of interest rates reasonably steady through its dealing operations with the discount houses. Yesterday it gave £501m of assistance in response to a forecast liquidity shortage of £500m. Its dealing rates remained unchanged.

Concern over dollar interest rates saw government stocks and shares both drift lower. The FT 30-share index fell 1.7 to 570.5, making a fall on the week of 8.3.



The lion at MGM—Mr Kirk Kerkorian, the Las Vegas financier

Fade-out for the dream makers

By Ivor Davies, Hollywood, Feb 12

World industry is facing a hard time and Hollywood, despite its illusion of opulence and plenty, is suffering badly with the rest.

Despite the fact that traditionally during recessions and depressions, escapist entertainment is at a premium, somehow this time Hollywood seems to be in the same boat as Sir Freddie Laker, John De Lorean and the Detroit car industry.

At MGM studios, where they have been dream making longer than anyone else, the harsh light of reality is beginning to penetrate even into the dark corners of the sound stages. This week what appeared to be a simple announcement of a change at the top at MGM/United Artists, the conglomerate formed by the merger of the two film companies last May, was just the tip of the iceberg.

What is happening is that Mr Kirk Kerkorian, the Vegas financier, MGM's principal stockbroker with fifty-four per cent of the company, has brought in Mr Frank Rothman, an entertainment lawyer with one of America's most prestigious and powerful showbusiness law firms, — Whynan, Bantzer, Rothman Kuchel and Silbert — to ride herd on its creative heads of the studios.

Under the new structure both MGM chairman and chief executive officer Mr Frank Rothman, 59, and his United Artists counterpart, Mr David Begelman, 60, will answer to Mr Rothman.

MGM, like many another studio this past year, has had a near disastrous string of flops. Apart from Superman Two, Raiders of the Lost Ark, and Arthur, there have been few successes.

MGM in particular, under Begelman before he switched to United Artists in October, spent heavily on Rich and Famous, starring Candice

Bergen and Jacqueline Bisset, all The Marbles, with Peter Falk, the Jack Lemmon Walter Matthau Comedy Buddy Buddy and the \$20m Herb Ross musical Pennies From Heaven, all of which failed to make music at the box office.

In addition, MGM spent \$380m last July to purchase United Artists, which included a \$250m cash payment, increasing MGM's bank debt to almost \$600m. That debt rose again because of the big film production programme launched under the Begelman reign.

A payment of \$109m on the purchase of United Artists is due on May 14 and rumour has it that the studio, with huge cash flow problems, has trouble meeting it. MGM is not alone in its predicament. The whole of Hollywood is in a state of flux. Box office revenues are down nearly 10 per cent and almost weekly multi-million dollar film companies are being taken over and bid for.

There was the much publicized Coca Cola offer to purchase Columbia Pictures for more than \$750m. Last year the Denver tycoon Mr Marvin Davis paid a similar amount for Twentieth Century Fox Studios, this week Orion Pictures bought a controlling interest in Filmways for \$26m cash, and in January a group of film-makers, including producer Norman Lear and impresario Jerry Perenchio, purchased Auco Embassy Pictures for \$25m.

A significant clue to the cash difficulties at MGM was visible recently when the studio appeared a mite eager to claim the £15m insurance payoff for the movie Brainstorm which had shut down in November due to the death of its star Natalie Wood.

Lloyd's of London, however, insisted that the film be completed, so that even if it should make money eventually the company will not see any of it for some time.

New man Rothman, like Kerkorian who put him there, a low key operator, has taken pains to give all the appearance of a smooth transition aimed at unifying MGM when stockholders officially approve the merger in the next few months.

Rothman, who says he took the job to capitalize on the "revolution in movie software" will concentrate on mining the explosive market in video cassettes and cable TV.

He has also been careful to try to play down talk of the studio being in financial difficulties, declaring that lenders "are not giving us any trouble".

MGM is putting on a happy face about its newest products, although one of them, Cannery Row, Based on John Steinbeck's novel, is already getting lukewarm reviews.

However, they did get off to a promising start this year with Alan Parker's Shoot The Moon, with Diane Keaton and Albert Finney, and there is optimism over the Julie Andrews musical Victor, and a new Stephen Spielberg picture, a horror film called Poltergeist.

The business of Hollywood is creating fantasies so its not surprising perhaps that for a long time even the people in charge of the balance sheets have had difficulty facing reality.

The cold wind of change is blowing studios away left and right, and this year could be the end of the dream for MGM. If the company's Lion is to be returned to the throated roar, the studio has to recapture the art of making films that people want to see.

LME acts to beat the tin squeeze

By Michael Prest

Officials of the London Metal Exchange have taken more steps to avert the squeeze in the tin market, which threatens to develop in the next fortnight. Dealers have been asked to give full details of their tin positions, and the LME committee has obtained assurances that physical tin will be made available.

The LME also requested to give the size of their holdings of tin in warehouses or in transit on February 17. The statements should be handed in two days later. Firms are also requested to give the size of their tin holdings in transit on February 17.

Firms will not be asked to say when they acquired their holdings or give details of their sales and purchases of tin. Nevertheless, the information should enable the LME committee to identify any delivery problems. A similar survey last month revealed the LME to be 26 as dates on which speculators who went short last year could face difficulty in meeting their obligations.

This is why, in an unusual statement yesterday, the LME committee said that it had obtained assurances that physical tin would be available to shorts. The committee also stressed that the £120 daily limit on the premium that could be charged for failure to meet delivery contracts would not interfere with price movements.

Senior Malaysian politicians have criticized the LME for tampering with the market. The problems which have faced the LME in the past few steps stem from the presence in the market since last July of a heavy buyer or group of buyers, believed to be linked to tin producers.

Tin prices have risen to record heights and cash prices are higher than forward ones. Cash tin closed at £8,730 a tonne yesterday while three months metal was £7,855.

Shell loses £24m oil theft claim

By Drew Johnston

Shell International Petroleum yesterday lost its £24m insurance claim against Lloyd's underwriters over the theft of a cargo of oil carried by the scuttled supertanker Salem. The Appeal Court reversed a High Court ruling that Lloyd's should settle Shell's full claim.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said the cargo was not taken at sea, and was not therefore covered by Shell's marine insurance policy. He described the theft as part of a fraud whose perpetrators had never been caught.

The Salem, a 214,000-ton ship formerly known as the South Sun, was scuttled off Senegal, West Africa, in January 1980. The court held that the insurers, represented in the case by Mr Antony Gibbs, a Lloyd's name holder, were liable only for 15,840 tons still on board when the tanker was scuttled. The value of this residue is estimated at £2.5m and was covered by a clause insuring against loss by "perils of the sea".

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* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 to £50,000 £3 1/2% £50,000 and over

Researcher to concentrate on technology Sinclair signs computers deal with Timex

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Mr Clive Sinclair has given Timex Corporation an exclusive licence to use his technology and manufacture and market Sinclair personal computers in North America.

The deal proves that the 41-year-old entrepreneur and inventor means what he said when he set up Sinclair Research in 1979: that he would concentrate on technological innovation rather than mass-marketing and manufacturing — learning from the mistakes of his previous consumer electronics ventures in the 1970s.

Worldwide sales of the ZX81 personal computer, which Sinclair Research launched last March, have just passed 300,000 making the £69 machine the best-selling computer in terms of volume. The company is already selling 15,000 units a month on the United States by mail order, Mr Sinclair said yesterday.

Timex's retailing strength in the United States — with 170,000 outlets and half of the American market for watches — should boost Sinclair sales severalfold. Under the licensing agreement all personal computers that Timex sells in North America will bear both the



Clive Sinclair: learning from past mistakes

Sinclair and Timex names, and Sinclair will receive a five per cent royalty whether the computers are sold by television, which will sell for £50, is not covered by the new contract.

Mr Sinclair maintains that his television represents a genuine innovation — unlike the pocket TV which Sony announced last month. Yesterday he called the £190 Japanese product "a pathetic joke".

Timex already assembles the ZX81 at its Dundee factory under a contract from Sinclair Research that is quite separate from the new licensing agreement.

Mr Sinclair said yesterday that his firm's turnover is running at £30m a year — against £4.65m in the first full financial year to March 31, 1981. In that year pre-tax profits were £1.12m — he refused to reveal current profitability except to say that it was very healthy.

Yet Sinclair Research directly employs only 35 people. About 500 jobs at Timex, Ferranti (which makes electronic chips for the ZX81) and other subcontractors depend on Sinclair.

Mr Sinclair intends the company, which is 95 per cent owned by himself, to remain lean and research-oriented because we have very thin management skills and very thick technological skills". He is to set up a fourth research laboratory, in Winchester, to develop semiconductor technology. The third research centre, in Exeter, is working on a battery-powered electric car which Mr Sinclair hopes to unveil in the first quarter of 1984.

Portfolio service

Investors with a minimum of £10,000 may be interested in Schroders' new Unit Trust Portfolio Management Service. It will structure personal assets into international portfolios which will be managed on a discretionary basis. Investors with more than £20,000 will receive a full monitoring service, including half-yearly reports and valuations, and will be charged a management fee every six months of 0.25% of the value of the portfolio.

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75	62	Airsprung Group	70	—	4.7	6.7	11.1	15.4	—
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	44	—	4.3	9.8	3.7	8.3	—
225	187	Bardon Hill	204	—	9.7	4.8	9.9	12.1	—
104	77	Deborah Services	77	—	6.0	7.8	3.8	7.2	—
130	97	Frank Horsell	130	—	6.4	4.9	11.7	24.1	—
81	39	Frederick Parker	81	+1	1.7	2.1	35.2	—	—
78	46	George Blair	51	+1	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	96	—	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4	—
105	100	Isis Conv Pref	105	—	15.7	15.0	—	—	—
1	114	Isis Conv Pref	115	—	7.0	7.4	3.0	6.1	—
100	108	James Beough	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	10.0	—
334	250	Robert Jenkins	253	+3	12.3	3.3	—	—	—
59	51	Serduton "A"	56	—	5.3	9.5	8.6	8.1	—
252	164	Torday & Carlisle	164	—	10.7	6.5	5.3	9.1	—
15	10	Twinline Ord	134	+4	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinline 15% ULS	77	+1	15.0	19.5	—	—	—
47	42	Unilock Holdings	42	—	3.0	11.1	4.8	8.3	—
103	75	Walters Holdings	73	—	2.8	8.4	4.8	8.3	—
265	212	W. S. Vastes	224	—	1.2	5.8	4.2	8.3	—

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FAMILY MONEY

Man from Hambro with a case for unit trusts

This week's news that Hambro Life has been given the nod by the Department of Trade to sell unit trusts will strike terror into the hearts, not to mention the pockets, of any householder who has ever had a pushy unit trust salesman. Finding his marketing muscles on the front doorstep.

The move has also divided the unit trust industry into two camps. Those like Save and Prosper, who will follow suit — perhaps because they cannot afford not to — and those who think it will be destructive to the image of an industry. They believe the industry has generally avoided the kind of bad publicity which has dogged the life insurance industry.

On the sales front the unit trust industry had been far more carefully regulated than its life insurance cousins. There can be no direct selling to investors.

The life insurance salesman, on the other hand is allowed to sell door-to-door — making the "cold call" — a most inappropriate term as the hot shot salesmen usually arrive just as you get into a nice warm bath.

Says Tim Miller, a director of the Framlington group of unit trusts: "We have sweated for years under a

tight set of rules and conventions. The insurance industry is relatively loosely regulated. I cannot see how any company will be able to police its sales force over unit trust sales."

The arrangements required by the Department of Trade are stringent. Only Hambro Life's top 800 salesmen will be able to sell unit trusts. The salesman must not initiate discussion about unit trusts. He must wait for the customer to ask.

There then has to be a follow up meeting requested by the customer and only on that second contact can a sale of units be made.

Hambro managing director Syd Lipworth says: "Our rules are stringent. Our controls are excellent. The investor will benefit from having a wider choice of products."

Others are more cynical. David Pope, managing director of Crescent Fund Managers says: "This drives a coach and horses through the unit trust rules. It opens the floodgates to all sorts of possible abuses. I am staggered that the Department of Trade thinks that a highly-motivated, highly-trained life insurance salesman will restrain himself from offering unit trusts to customers

along with his other products at the same time."

Professor Jim Gower at the Department of Trade must be surprised as well since the DOT's move seems to directly contradict the recommendations of his recent report *Review of Investor Protection*.

Discussing this with members of the life insurance industry provided an interesting insight into the art of sales.

"Well Professor Gower recommended that unit trusts could be sold in the same way as insurance," claims one party. Well, that was not the point. But was not the point. What Professor Gower actually said was: "If door-to-door sales of life policies should continue to be allowed the practice should be restricted to straightforward life policies and not permitted in the case of bonds and certainly not to be extended to sales of other securities."

Professor Gower does not seem to be in favour of anything being sold directly to the public. Paul Bateman, marketing director of Save and Prosper says: "Our insurance salesmen are to be allowed to sell units as from next month. We have cleared out arrangements with the Department of Trade. It

makes sense for our people to be able to sell both bonds and unit trusts."

Since the changes in the tax rules on unit trusts they have become more attractive than bonds in many cases. It's silly that a salesman can sell them a bond when really a unit trust would suit them better."

Admittedly the confused regulations about sales of investments are silly, but we must wait to see what form the changes, if they come in the light of the Gower report, will take.

Many people were expecting them to be more stringent, not less. Paul Jennings of M&G says: "I think it is astonishing that the Department of Trade is letting this happen in the light of the Gower report. Personally I feel it is the wrong way to sell it."

It is indeed difficult to see the distinction between a selling as agent and an unsolicited introduction and a follow up meeting.

Since so many of the life insurance groups jumping on the bandwagon believe that the rules as presently constituted are senseless it does not encourage much faith that they will be observed.

Margaret Drummond



Sir Peter sidetracked

Sir Peter Parker, British Rail chairman, now has another reason for feeling downhearted this week. If he called up Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, they could commiserate. The reason is that the European Court has just ruled that British Rail has been guilty of sex discrimination — and in so doing, reversed a previous decision by Lord Denning, and, hopefully opened the door to equal treatment of the sexes in pension benefits.

Sir Peter should not treat the decision as a defeat, but as an opportunity. The triumph of Mrs Eileen Garland, a BR accounts clerk, is a lesson to other parties engaged in a long-running dispute — a lesson that persistence pays.

Mrs Garland complained that when she retired, her perks would be less than for a male employee. After retirement, all British Rail workers, can travel at 1/4 fare for ordinary journeys — and free for many of them, including all European trips. There was no quibble about that. But while the concession is extended to wives and dependent children of retired male employees, it is not given to husbands and dependent children of retired female employees.

Mrs Garland managed to persuade the Equal Opportunities Commission to back her case at an Industrial Tribunal — and lost. She appealed to the Employment Appeal Tribunal — and won. British Rail in turn appealed to the Court of Appeal and defeated Mrs Garland, who was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Despite this seemingly final setback, she managed to persuade the Lords to hear the case, and they sent it to the European Court at Luxembourg for a preliminary ruling. Last Tuesday she heard that she had won. While the case has to go back to the Lords, there is little doubt that the conclusion of the case will be in her favour.

Much of the debate turned on whether the benefits were in connection with retirement. If they were, argued British Rail, the Sex Discrimination Act excluded matters relating to retirement, and it was not liable. The European Court decision confirms that European law that within the same profession and women who feel that unequal retirement ages discriminate against them, particularly where redundancy is involved. There is little doubt that Mrs Garland's persistence has begun a new era in the pursuit of women's rights in Britain.

Robin Ellison

other female employees, the decision is a landmark in discrimination law. In particular, it gives fresh hope to the family of Catherine Stockton, a doctor who worked in the Orkneys. When she died last December, aged 43, after a long and painful illness, it was revealed that the NHS superannuation Scheme which gives widows benefits to the survivors of male doctors, does not give equivalent widows benefits to the families of female doctors. Mrs Garland's persistence gives the opportunity to Eric Stockton to claim that he is entitled to a widow's pension by right — and this latest decision means he has every chance of success.

The decision follows similar judgments in recent months against Lloyds Bank, Legal and General Assurance and the Prudential. It also gives new hope to both men and women who feel that unequal retirement ages discriminate against them, particularly where redundancy is involved. There is little doubt that Mrs Garland's persistence has begun a new era in the pursuit of women's rights in Britain.

Robin Ellison

Discrimination by health insurers is challenged

Jennifer Pinder is a self-employed dentist in her middle thirties. She is one of a growing number of self-supporting professional women working on equal terms with men who are questioning the insurance companies' practice of charging them more for permanent health cover.

A few weeks ago the mighty Prudential was forced by one woman customer to withdraw a permanent health policy after it was agreed in court that its policy of paying higher benefits than women for the same premium infringed the Sex Discrimination Act. Unfortunately, the Prudential, along with the vast majority of insurance companies, still loads subscriptions against women by anything from a quarter to a half as much as they charge men.

Ms Pinder has a complicated two-tier permanent health policy. She is covered for up to £144 a week through the Dentists' Provident Society, which is a friendly society that covers the insurance needs of dentists exclusively.

The Dentists' Provident has a "top up" arrangement with the Friends' Provident for £50 a week. Under the DPS policy, she pays exactly the same for permanent health cover as a male colleague. But the Friends' Provident charges women 50 per cent more than men. She asks why there is discrimination by one insurer and not another within the same package.

Mr Leslie Hubbard, secretary of the Dentists' Provident says: "We have always accepted female dentists on the same basis as men. In the early days there were few women in this field but the numbers are now growing quickly."

"Dental surgeons are highly motivated people who do not go off sick at the drop

of a hat. We cannot of course, dictate to friends' Provident what it should do about premiums."

Ms Pinder has, over the years, complained to the insurance companies about the way they charge her more. She has received the stock response — women have worse health records, they take more time off work and are generally considered a poorer risk.

"They just quote a lot of actuarial statistics at me but looking around at the people I know in my profession, the women seem to take no more time off than the men," said Ms Pinder.

"In my practice there are been women and men. Two men dentists I know have been off work for prolonged periods because of accident or sickness but the women have not. Women generally have fewer heart attacks, road accidents and a lower incidence of alcoholism and other related illnesses. Pregnancy is excluded from these policies anyway."

The sort of questions asked by Ms Pinder and many other women make insurance companies take cover behind their worn-out and sometimes outdated — morbidity tables. But the insurance companies will also admit there may be plenty of non-medical reasons why women take more time off work than men. It is a question of caring for sick children for instance.

There is also a feeling that

because many women do boring jobs there is less incentive for them to work through minor ailments. As Ms Pinder points out, these latter reasons do not affect the women in her profession.

"Dentists are reasonably well paid and have nannies to look after their children," she says. All the women dentists I know are enthusiastic about their jobs. There is no evidence to show that within the same profession women are worse risks than men. But the insurance companies do not recognise this."

Insurance companies operate different rates for different types of employment. A steeply graded scale of rates would expect to pay more than a white collar worker. Jennifer Pinder wants to take legal action against the insurance companies to force them to demonstrate that women in her profession are a worse risk than men and so justify their higher premiums.

"As a dentist, I am not discriminated against at work but the insurance is an irritant because I am single and self-employed. I have to be insured against illness or accidents that would prevent me from working. I am paying £353 a year in permanent health policies, which have no tax relief. It is expensive and for no reason why I should be paying more for it than my male colleagues."

Local authority yearling bonds — 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 14% pc basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds — Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). Best offers: 1 year, Kingston Upon Hull 13% pc; 2 years, Kirklees 14% pc; 3 years, Barnsley 14% pc; 4-5

years, Knowsley 14% pc; 6-7 years, Hereford and Worcester 15% pc; 8 years, Knowsley 14% pc; 9-10 years, Reading 14% pc. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-828 7855, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24808.

Finance for industry — Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 13% pc; 5-6 years, 13% pc; 7 years, 13% pc; 8-9 years, 14% pc; 10 years, 14% pc. Further information from FFI 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Foreign currency deposits — Interest paid without deduction of tax.

Policy launched — Norwich Union has launched a new "Declaration Linked" policy giving cover for loss of income suffered by business owners as a result of a disaster such as a fire. The first premium is based on estimated earnings for the financial year nearest to his first year's period of insurance.

A declaration of earnings is made six months from the start of the policy. The calculation is correct. If earnings turn out to be less than calculated, up to 50 per cent of the initial premium will be repaid — if they turn out to be more, an additional premium will be charged.

"Declaration Linked" can be taken out as a separate policy irrespective of where the businessman's other insurances are. As the premium and cover are fully adjustable, the risk of a reduced claim payment through underestimation of earnings is avoided.

Sound investment — Following the recent fall in interest rates, Crown Life has reduced the rate offered on its 5 year guaranteed income bond by 1/2 per cent to 11 per cent. However, applications received before February 12, subject to a maximum of £2.5m being received, will be met at the old rate of 11.75 per cent. This is a single premium endowment policy with a guaranteed cash bonus payable each year and represents sound investment value in current market conditions.

Lure of the zero-coupon bond

The ink was barely dry on our last article about zero-coupon bonds (*The Times*, January 25) than learned readers were pointing out that these apparently attractive investments are fraught with tax problems. Further investigation indeed confirms that British private investors should be wary.

But first, the bonds themselves. A zero-coupon bond is simply one which carries no coupon. The borrower does not pay interest; instead the lender buys the bond at well below its par value. Discounts are currently about 75 per cent. The lender makes a profit on the difference between the purchase price and the redemption price paid by the borrower.

In times such as these when interest rates are very high — and there are widespread fears that they will go still higher — even prime borrowers may have to offer yields of 16 per cent or more to attract investors. The

alternative of offering what looks like a capital gain rather than income from interest is therefore attractive to corporate treasurers.

A few zero-coupon issues were offered last year, but the market has boomed since early January. Borrowers, mainly American corporations and utilities, have issued paper with a nominal value of \$5,000m, although the amount raised has been \$1,400m. At present seven zero coupon issues are available: two from General Electric and one each from Caterpillar Tractor, Gaz de France, R. J. Reynolds, Baker International and Sears Roebuck.

American corporations have dominated the market because under United States tax law they can set a notional interest rate on zero coupon bonds against income. This improves cash flow, an important consideration at the moment because many American companies

have borrowed heavily at high short-term rates.

Leaving the tax question aside for the moment, investors enjoy two prime benefits. First, the return on a zero coupon bond held to maturity is known from the minute it is bought. The only drawback is the company's ability to pay in 10 years' time. Investors are therefore safest with high quality borrowers, such as those offering zero coupon bonds at present.

Secondly, zero coupon bonds can do better than straight bonds carrying a coupon. Dupont 14 1/2 per cent 1988, for example, yields 15.45 per cent if priced at 96, on the conventional assumption that each annual coupon is reinvested at 15.45 per cent. But if interest rates fall, so does the average annual yield to maturity. In that case the 15.12 per cent offered by Dupont's recent zero coupon bond due in 1990 is more profitable.

But that, of course, depends on the tax treatment. So far many tax authorities around the world — perhaps a little surprised at the flood of issues — have simply said they will wait and see. The Inland Revenue says it has not issued a guidance notice to inspectors on zero coupon bonds and that it will study

each case as and when it arises.

One widely-held interpretation, however, is that under the terms of the Taxes Act 1980 zero coupon issues will be treated as discounts, the gains on which are liable to income tax at a top rate of 75 per cent, including investment income surcharge.

The implication is that there is no advantage in selling such bonds before redemption.

At the same time, by a legislative quirk the Taxes Act 1980 does not cover losses on discounts, so opinion is that such losses can only be offset against capital gains, at a maximum offset rate of 30 per cent. Those believing that gains on deep discount bonds will be treated as capital gains in fact appear to be in a minority.

Despite the uncertainty surrounding the tax position — and it is possible that tax legislation could change in different places over the longish life of a bond — the number of British investors likely to be affected is small, if only because Eurobond investment is a rich man's game.

Mike Prest

The Early Bird out to catch your interest

A novel account which pays investors in advance was launched this week by the Norwich Building Society. Its Early Bird Account calculates interest from the date of the initial deposit but the interest is paid 14 days after the opening of the account, instead of at the end of the half-year.

Thereafter, half-yearly interest is made within a fortnight of January 31 and July 31. This ensures the interest is available much earlier to take advantage of sale bargains, holiday deposits and special discounts. It can, of course, be reinvested. The minimum sum on this account is £500 and the maximum £20,000 (or £40,000 in a joint account). Accounts can be opened from the age of seven.

The Norwich Building Society has offices mostly in Norfolk but also in Blackpool, Lincoln and York. Its head office is St Andrew's House, Norwich NR2 4TR (tel. 0603 60081).

This new scheme works in favour of the consumer in clearly indicating the true rates of interest that are offered, but how many other investments are so clear? Whilst the Consumer Credit Act makes it a requirement to state the true rates when money is borrowed, it is not time that a similar statute covered investors in other financial media?

Conal Gregory

Tax information is free

Tax is a complicated subject which most people prefer to ignore. But it is also a problem which gets worse the longer you leave your affairs to ferment, and ignorance of tax law is no defence.

Most large firms of accountants produce booklets of varying degrees of readability, designed to help their clients with a basic understanding of tax problems. Almost all firms will send you copies of their booklets,

and very useful they are. Accountants Peat Marwick Mitchell for example produce an excellent range of booklets, all available free on request from any of the firm's offices.

A full list of publications is available on request and the booklets can be obtained by post from The Library, Professional Practice Department, Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co, 1 Puddle Dock Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

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London: Black (2.0); Nottingham v
Surrey: Somerset (2.0); Solent v Arna
Surrey: Somerset Northampton (2.30); South-
te UDT v Colchester Tiger (4.0).

Football: the gates open for Chelsea both at home and away

Paisley sticks to the same pattern

By Stuart Jones

Football Correspondent

It was the second time in the 11th round of the FA Cup today, Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal were assured of appearing at Wembley in the League Cup Final: Leicester City and Chelsea await fitness tests on players, who need "miracles" to play them; and Ipswich Town and West Bromwich Albion are stretched to the limit by injuries.

Remarkably, four of the last 16 survivors are in the hands of caretaker managers—Aston Villa, Crystal Palace, Oxford United and Grimsby Town.

To complete the picture, half of the eight ties are staged in London, the other half in the Midlands. It is doubtful if matters will go so neatly split at the end of the day, as league positions count for nothing in the Cup, underdogs tend to rip the form-book to shreds and those who have nothing to lose often win.

No team is expected to be Liverpool, the competition's favourites, at present. Unbeaten this year, they had conceded only two goals until their defence relaxed in the League Cup win over Ipswich in midweek. Paisley needs only to change the date at the top of his team sheet for the seventh successive time.

Liverpool are not accustomed to performing in front of 35,000 spectators which Chelsea hope to welcome to their biggest crowd for three years—at Stamford Bridge.

The gates will be open at 12.30 and all are warned to go there early. The receipts are certain to break the club record and may even double the previous highest figure of £70,000. The last visitors to attract a crowd of 30,000 in a League match in March, 1979, were Liverpool.

The previous season Chelsea, newcomers to the first division, knocked Liverpool out in the third round of the Cup with a 4-2 win at home, only to fall in the fifth round to Orient. Now they themselves have embarked on a successful run, losing only

once in their last 14 games, but Burnstead, an important cog in their wheel, is still in need of a miraculous cure.

Hazard, Ricardo Villa's replacement, and Tottenham's hero in their League Cup win over West Bromwich, is doubtful for the home tie against Aston Villa. Villa (the player) is still out but Roberto and Archibald are ready to come in should Hazard not be risked. Tottenham, tightening their grip on three cups, are undefeated in their last 22 cup matches.

Villa (the team) are managed for the second time by Tony Barton after the sudden departure of Ron Saunders. He brings Morley back into the squad of 13 and Blair is likely to be omitted from the side that held Southampton, the League leaders, on Wednesday. Shaw begins his comeback in the reserves but it may be too late.

Roy Barry, another temporary manager, returns with his charges, Oxford, to the County Cup, for whom he made 83 appearances. Oxford, at present, remnants of the third division, make two changes and will be weakened by the absence of Shorton and Jones. Coventry also make two alterations which will be strengthened, as if they needed to be, by the presence of Francis, who signed for £150,000 yesterday, and Dwyer.

Ipswich seem to be able to do nothing but make changes. Already, without Butcher and Thijssen, Brazil's chances of recovery from injury are as remote as Osman's and Manner has been ordered to rest for a fortnight. Even so, they may have an operation which would lift his hopes of playing in Spain.

Dwyer flew back from a youth tournament in Italy to start into the attack against an unchanged Shrewsbury Town.

West Bromwich, too, have a lengthy injury list that now includes Bateson, Whitehead, Jol, Managah and Brown. Lewis, a stocky 16-year-old, may be drafted in for his first taste of the Cup against Norwich City, for whom



Will Chelsea bring a smile to manager Neal's face?

Jack is fit enough to attempt to maintain his record of scoring in every round.

O'Neill, Leicester City's Northern Ireland international, decided on the eve of their meeting with Watford to hand in a transfer request. "I want to move to a first division club before the World Cup campaign begins," he said yesterday. He will play today

but, in spite of acupuncture treatment, Kelly may not play.

Watford, who will take 8,000 supporters with them, are the favourites of the tournament so far, having cut down Manchester United and West Ham United. They may still be among the last eight when the ark casts off to deeper waters of the quarter-finals.

FA lift away games ban on Chelsea supporters

One of the season's more intriguing fixtures, Chelsea v the Football Association in the Chancery Division of the High Court, was called off yesterday when the FA lifted their ban on the second division club's supporters attending away matches.

Chelsea have agreed to implement "certain new measures" aimed at controlling supporters at away games.

Chelsea's vice-chairman, David Mears, said yesterday: "Obviously we do not wish to reveal the ideas we have agreed with the FA and the police—that could be self-defeating—but we will have closer liaison with the clubs we are due to visit."

The FA statement announcing the lifting of the ban and the ending of the "alleged" ralling for Chelsea away games, said the decision had been taken after talks between both parties and bearing in mind "the difficulty in applying the sanction and the inconvenience caused to the home team."

The ban finally proved unworkable last Saturday, when 3,000 Chelsea supporters travelled to Watford without tickets and the local police asked the club to admit them to prevent possible trouble in the town.

The Watford chief executive, Eddie Plumley, said: "We were the guinea pigs for the ban because we were the closest team to London. After the match I sent my report to the FA. I said the ban was both unworkable and expensive for clubs that tried to enforce it."

Rugby Union

A chance for Mills to push England claims

By David Hands

England's selectors, who have been in action for Leicester against Newport, will, however, be unable to watch England's reconstructed midfield in action because Dodge is still resting the hamstring injury which prevented him from playing for England against Ireland. Dodge has been training this week but will rest the injury over the weekend in the hope of proving his fitness at England's squad training at Stourbridge on Monday.

The experienced Ball, therefore, joins Cusworth and Wood against Newport, where Leicester have won only four times before the Second World War and twice since. Also in Leicester's XV is Black, most of whose first-team experience has been at No 8. Newport hope to have the British Lions centre, Gareth Evans, back in action but they will be without another centre, Robinson, who has a damaged knee.

In Wales the centre of attention will be the most-postponed third-round cup games. The holders, Cardiff, have their full quota of internationals for the tie to Ebbw Vale, including England's No 8, Scott. Ebbw Vale will be without their captain, Gareth Evans, who has a damaged rib cage, and assuming Cardiff win, it will be their ninth cup victory in a row.

Wales face the most difficult task faces Bridgend, last season's losing finalists, who travel to Neath. Neath's Williams returns after a long absence from the side, while their captain, Richards, the Wales hooker, the flanker, Jones and lock, Cross, will have recovered from injury.

Another Bridgend club are still involved in the cup: Bridgend Sports, who play host to Newport, will be in the Welsh Cup world it should be the close of the junior club's campaign, particularly since Newport have their two internationals, Davis and Lane, back in action.

English put Welsh forwards to flight

By John Clementson

English Unions 50 Welsh Unions 7 On a cold and blustery afternoon at Birmingham University yesterday, English Universities took their revenge for a 12-3 defeat last time these two teams met by trouncing Welsh Universities by seven goals and two tries to a try and a dropped goal.

The English students, who were twice behind in the first-half, overcame the Welsh in every department, but nowhere more so than in the forwards. They dominated the Welsh in every phase of play, forcing the Welsh to retreat at every set piece and were masters of the loose.

The Welsh, at times, made the most appalling errors. Late in the fourth minute, they had the indignity of conceding a try when Clements had held the ball cleanly near the touchline, well away from the main theatre of play. Clements was as good as a seer when he saw Moore steal the ball from him and touch down almost unopposed.

There was little to suggest that the English would run out winners so easily on the basis of the first 10 minutes of play. The Welsh descended on the English right wing. So tricky was the wind that Summer was bound to misjudge a catch eventually. As soon as he did, a Crook descriptor, he seized the ball and fed Emrys for a try.

The English students produced a memorable try in response. From a quick throw in on their own 22, Watmough drove up the touchline, even had the indignity of conceding a try when Clements had held the ball cleanly near the touchline, well away from the main theatre of play. Clements was as good as a seer when he saw Moore steal the ball from him and touch down almost unopposed.

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Vital mission for Carr

Jan Greaves, manager of Wolverhampton Wanderers invites the former Scottish international Willie Carr to turn back the clock today and show he is the man to steer the struggling Wolves back to first division safety.

Against Manchester United—his first league game since October—with Mr Greaves looking for the "Willie I used to know."

Mr Greaves said: "I haven't seen him since competitive game for a year or so, but at his best he was always a productive player, a fine passer of the ball and a man capable of providing a steady influence in midfield."

"If he can still do that then his age doesn't matter. We appeared to have no real centre in midfield when I watched the team at Spurs last week. Perhaps he can help out that side."

Bob Coy, a 21-year-old defender, has only his second senior outing. Carr, 35, is the injured Gallagher, and Daniel returns after injury in place of Eves. United, 5-0 winners against Wolves at Old Trafford in October, have their midfield player Moses out with an ankle injury. Carr, who has recovered from the leg injury which kept him out of the midweek England XI memorial match for Bob Taylor, Southampton, the first division

Wages proposal unlikely to win support

By Norman Fox

Summer football and a different basic wage structure are likely to be the most controversial proposals to be discussed by the Football Association's executive committee in its meeting at St Albans on Saturday.

The seminar has been called to discuss football's financial crisis, but Mr Needler's proposals are unlikely to win support from players. He also wants to abolish automatic rises at the conclusion of their contracts and to impose a maximum number of players at each club.

Summer football may have a more serious hearing now that the Football Association Executive Staff Association members have voted 13-4 in favour. However, the chairman is more interested in a mid-season break.

The agenda includes a review of progress since the last meeting, but Mr Needler's proposals are unlikely to win support from players. He also wants to abolish automatic rises at the conclusion of their contracts and to impose a maximum number of players at each club.

Crucial day for Aberdeen

By Iain Mackenzie

After the mid-winter break, the Scottish championship resumes today when competitive matches will be played at club level for the first time since last November.

Most sides have only three games to play; there will be another round of league fixtures a fortnight hence, and in mid-March sides and promotions will be decided on the final league Saturday of the season. There will be no relegation this year because of the decision to increase the number of clubs in each of the seven divisions from 12 to 14.

The 42 fixtures scheduled for the weekend of February 13-14, are the most important in the season, as they will decide the promotion and relegation battles.

Forfar, pushing for promotion to the first division meet Heart of Midlothian at Tynecastle and Aberdeen at Pittodrie. Forfar, pushing for promotion to the first division meet Heart of Midlothian at Tynecastle and Aberdeen at Pittodrie.

Heriot's eager for revenge

By Iain Mackenzie

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Ringland injured

By Iain Mackenzie

The Irish wing, Trevor Ringland (Queen's University), has damaged his left hand in a university game and his condition is causing concern.

Ringland, who is a member of the Irish national team, is expected to miss the match against Scotland on Saturday.

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Golf

Trevino charms gallery and takes first pace

Melbourne, Feb. 12.—Lee Trevino took over the lead from the local professional, Michael Clayton, after the second round of the Victorian Open championship here today. A huge gallery was delighted as Trevino went ahead by a four-stroke margin for a two-round total of 138.

Behind them were the defending champion, Bill Dunk, and Bob Shaw, both of whom were in the top 10.

Trevino, who was two under par on the second round, was in the top 10.

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Clampett takes a leaf out of the book of Homer

From John Ballantine

How much of Clampett's undoubted mastery is due to these principles, and how much to his natural talent, is the question.

Nick Faldo scored 73, reverting from his experimental cross-handed putting stroke to his old, trusted orthodox grip, and hobbling plenty. Starting at the 10th, he had a single at the 50-yard 15th when he clipped in at the 18th.

When he had a score, like his first round of the Hawaiian Open on a day of contrasting fortunes, Trevino climbed steadily to gain the lead.

Trevino, who was two under par on the second round, was in the top 10.

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Latest European snow reports

Conditions Off Piste Runs to rest (5 pm) °C

Davos Excellent skiing on piste 140 250 Good Varied Good Fine -1

Grindelwald Good skiing on piste 110 390 Good Varied Fair Fine 4

Flaine Good skiing on upper slopes 110 390 Fair Spring Poor Fine 5

Kitzbühel Good skiing on upper slopes 80 300 Good Spring Snow Hard 0

Saas-Fee Good skiing on upper slopes 100 160 Fair Crust Poor Fine 3

St Moritz Worn patches on lower slopes 70 100 Good Crust Good Fine 2

Saas-Albin Worn patches on lower slopes 100 160 Good Varied Worn Fine 1

Seefeld Excellent skiing conditions 145 195 Good Varied Good Fine 5

Val d'Isère Good skiing on piste 70 230 Good Varied Fair -

Villars Worn patches on lower slopes 13 120 Good Varied Fair Fine 6

Wengen Good skiing on upper slopes 80 210 Fair Varied Fair Fine 8

Willisau Worn patches on lower slopes 40 120 Fair Varied Fair Fine 3

Compact on all runs In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, U refers to Lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from a tourist board:

Death State Weather Lifts Open °C

St. Moritz U Piste -10 Good -2

St. Moritz U Piste -10 Good -2

St. Moritz U Piste -10 Good -2

St. Moritz U Piste -10 Good -2

Bowls

Fullarton's victory ensures Scottish player in final

By Gordon Allan

John Fullarton reached the semi-final round of the Embassy world indoor bowls championship when he beat another Scot, Willie Wood, 21-12 at Coatbridge, near Glasgow, yesterday.

Fullarton, who has won the title for the first time since this event was inaugurated in 1979, beat Wood, a man ranked 14th in the world, in a closely fought match.

Wood, who was 13-12, was pushed in one of his own bowls for second shot; at the next end Fullarton did what he had to do. The West of Scotland had beaten the East: Fullarton from Ardrossan, Wood from Edinburgh.

Fullarton beat Peter Bryant (New Zealand) 21-12 in the morning, when Bryant made his astonishing recovery from 14-5 down to beat David Tio (Hongkong) to become the first New Zealander to win a match in this event. A comparable recovery against Watson never looked remotely likely.

Watson found and kept his line and length; Bryant found neither. Tio meant that the pressure on Bryant increased with every end, until it must have felt like a tidal wave. Watson's score included a four and three threes—the shortest of the championship so far.

Dunn, aged 19, the youngest competitor here, whose match against David Bryant on Thursday

will be talked about and repeated in tomorrow's log, was encouraged to take the game by his father, himself a bowler of county standard, who has played for Kent and Durham.

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Squash rackets

When politeness was the order of the day

By Rex Bellamy

The Army won the Services championship for the second consecutive year by beating the Royal Air Force 5-0 yesterday at the Lakeside Country Club, Frimley Green, Surrey.

Fullarton, who has won the title for the first time since this event was inaugurated in 1979, beat Wood, a man ranked 14th in the world, in a closely fought match.

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Hockey

England swoop for gold at home and abroad

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the date specified; after that
each date the estate of the
the will will be opened and
personal representatives named
be named and the claims and
to the claims and
forests of which they have had

ELSON NEE PANGBOURN
Florence Wilce nee Pangbourn
widow, late of 75 Centre Street
Swindon, died on 15th March 1981
intestate. Her estate, together
with the residue of her estate,
and the residue of the estate of
her husband are requested to appear
before the Probate Court at the
office of the Registrar of Probate
of 20 Commercial Road, Swindon,
SN1 5NR.

ELSE BARK (otherwise known as
Mrs Sarah of 46 Edentree Road,
Swindon) died on 15th March 1981
intestate. Her estate, together
with the residue of her estate,
and the residue of the estate of
her husband are requested to appear
before the Probate Court at the
office of the Registrar of Probate
of 20 Commercial Road, Swindon,
SN1 5NR.

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22nd February, 1962, at
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1962.


IAN MICHAEL PAGE
Secretary

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W. Andy. I hope you don't have the
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Ken & S. S.
W. Andy. I do love you despite what
has happened and what has yet
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1992

Edited by Peter Davalle

7.25 A Jo

35	Bekar's Doozer!	
30	Play "The Centenier" by Alan	
	Downer	
58	Weather	
	News	
15	Beyond the Threshold. The	1
	story of the Society for	1
	Physical Research. The story of	1
	the group is told by June Know-	U
	lmer.	
00	Lighten our Darkness. An	
	evening meditation	
15	A Word in Edgewooda. With	
	Prose by Stuart Hall, Michael	
	Martland and Katherine	
	Whitehorn.	
45	On the Train to New Zealand.	
	Ray Gosling talks about his	
	travels to the East!	

Gela Night, 10.00 A Century
in Germany 1920-1922, 11.03
urray, 2.00-5.00pm You and
the Music, 7.00pm

Radio 1

As Radio 2, 7.00 Playground,
any Blackburn, 10.00 Peter
12.00 My Top 12 in Now
Juste, 2.00 A King Is Now
2.05 Paul Gambaccini, 4.00
Weekend, 5.00 Rock On-
Concert, 7.30 Close

World Service

World Service can be received in

6.25-6.30am Weather: 6.55-7.00: News: 7.00-7.15: *Countryfile*: 7.15-7.30: Local MP: local news: 1.55-2.00: 5.50-5.55 Programme news.

Radio 3

5.56 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.05 Aubade. Carl Goldmark.
Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Martinu;
records.†
6.10 News.
6.20 Record Review.†
6.25 Stereo Release. Mozart, C.P.E.
Bach; records.
6.30 Robert Mayer Concert from the
Royal Festival Hall, London:
Vivian Stansel, Stravinsky, Mozart,
Liszt, Williamson.†
6.35 Bandstand. Brighouse and
Rusling Band: Elgar Howarth,
Butterworth, Malcolm Arnold.†
6.40 News.
6.45 Play Music Forum.†
6.50 Play it Again. Selection of

The following items call for \$5.00 each:

Wine, 7.15 From the Wineshop, 7.30
10.00 World News, 7.45 The World,
World News, 8.20 Reflections, 8.15
Choice, 8.30 Rhythms 'n' Roots,
9.00 Newsday, 9.15
10.15 The World Today, 9.30 Financial
and Local News, 9.45
10.15 About Britain, 10.30 Thirty
Theatre, 11.00 World News, 11.08
Newsday Britain, 11.15
6.45 at Waters, 11.30 Meridian, 12.08
General, 12.15 Anytime Goes.
12.30 Newsday, 12.45
Stationary, 1.15 Network UK, 1.30
Lobby, 1.45
Instrument Makers, 2.30 Rhythms 'n'
10.00 Radio, 2.15
4.00 World News, 4.09 Comedy,
4.20 World Special, 5.00 News Summary,
5.05 Newsday, 5.15
5.20 Newsday, 5.15 Good Books, 9.15
6.00 Comedy, 6.05
10.00 World News, 10.09 Groups and
Respondent, 10.30 New Ideas, 10.40
10.45 Comedy, 10.50
News, 11.09 Commentary, 11.15
11.30 Meridian, 12.08
12.15

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London except: Starts 9.10am
Adventures of Black Beauty. 8.35-
9.05am
30 Thunderbirds. 12.10pm-12.15
pm
a.s. 5.14 News. 5.15-5.45 Mr
a.s. 7.45-8.45 Magnum. 9.00 Film:
The Untouchables (Peter Sellers)
Sir Bond is called out of retirement
in the sinister organization
GRSH threatens the Allies.
10.00am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES
HTV West except: 9.10 am-9.35

BORDER

tion except: Starts 9.35 am-
hundreds. 5.15 pm-5.45 Mr
7.45-8.45 Magnat: Japanese
her husband is kidnapped. 11.20
ure: Traditional music with the
the Lough. 11.25 Closedown.

ANGLIA

tion except: Starts 9.00 am
Street. 10.00-10.30 Sport
15 pm-5.45 Mr Martin. 7.45-
Magnat. 12.20 Am At the End
of

GRAMPAIN
London except: Starts 9.00am
name Street. 10.00-10.30 Ice 80.
per 5.45 Mr Morin. 7.45-8.45
num beautiful Japanese woman's
try husband is kidnapped.
Museum Collections. 12.25
closedown.

SCOTTISH
London except: Starts 9.15 am
the Viking. 9.40-10.30
derberis. 5.15 pm 5.45 Mr
in. 12.45-1.45 Magnum. 12.25
closedown.

GRANADA
London except: Starts 9.20 am
German. 9.40-10.30 Thunderbirds.
per Bugs Bunny. 5.20-6.15
e. 12.45-1.45 Magnum. 12.50 am
ents. 1.15 Closedown.

ULSTER

ion except: Starts 10.00 am
ingray, 5.00 pm-5.05 Sports
5.15 News, 8.15
7.45-8.45 Magnum. 11.20
y, followed by Closedown.

CENTRAL

ion except: Starts 9.05 am
and Mary, 9.55-10.30
Street, 5.15 pm-5.45 Mr
7.45-8.45 Magnum. 12.20 am
n.

TVS

ion except: Starts, 9.00am
y, 9.05 Sesame Street,
n's Boomer, 10.30-12.15pm
5.15 News, 5.20-5.45 Mr
7.45-8.45 Magnum. 12.20am
y, followed by Closedown.

News	3
5 Beyond the Threshold. The story of the Society for Political Research	3
Lighten Our Darkness. An evening meditation	3
5 Woe in Edwards	3
5 On the Train to New Zealand. Ray Gosling talks about his travels to the East	3
0 News and Weather	3
7.15-7.35 am. Open University (Various features and Peking's Tom Jones), 1.35-2.00 pm. News, 2.00-2.30 pm. Sports (Dealing with Drink), 4.30 (Weinberger on 16), 5.00 (For Aquil (new 16) and 10, Ensemble (new 16).	3
<hr/>	
Radio 3	3
5 Weather.	11
0 News.	11
5 Colquhoun. Aurorem. Leopold Hofmann, Back; records.	11
0 News.	11

Radio 1

Tony Blackburn † 7.00 Noon
8.5 † 1.00pm Jimmie Savile, S.O.B.
11.5, Blacktop † 40. † 10.00 News
The Producers † 8.00 Sound of
0.00 Close.

World Service

and Service can be received in Europe on medium wave (SAB kHz) at the following times: GMT; 6.00 7.00 World News, 7.15 People and Britain, 7.15 From Our Own Islands, 7.30 Classical Record, 7.45 The Music of the After, 8.00 9.00 Reflections, 8.15 The Ten Years, 8.30 World News, 8.50 The British Postcard, 9.15 People and 9.45 Sports Review, 10.15 Century, 10.30 Sunday 11.00 World News, 11.09 News Bulletin, 11.15 Letter from America, by the Editor, 11.30 News, 11.50 World News, 1.09 Commentary.

[illegible]

on except: Stars 9.00 am
5.15 Wilko, World of
5.35-7.10 Bobbie, 1.00
Own Best, 11.30-12.30
Clay, 1.00 The Golden Story,
5.35 Challenge, 1.45

GRANADA
London Except: Starts 9.30 am
on Sat. of ... Hongkong, 9.45-10.00
Time, 11.00 Your Own Boss, 11.30
Ausp. Kaka Hae, 1.00-1.20 This
is a ... 1.20 go Univ. (see Harrison)
Up, 1.30-1.40 Robert, 2.25-
Match Time, 3.40 Cartoon, 4.45-
5.00 The Book, 11.00 (see Harrison)
Coward's classic in which a
second marriage is upset by the
loss of his first wife is ghost, 7.15-
7.30 The ... 12.00 (see Harrison)
and guests, 12.00 Season, 12.30 sat
down.

GRAMPIAN
London Except: 9.15am (see Harrison)

COTTISH

on except: Starts 9.30 am
10.00-11.00 Sesame
11.30-12.00 The Your Own
10 pm Out of Town, 1.30
Outdoor, 2.00 God's Story,
city Challenge, 2.30-3.30
am Cuscutas, 4.00 Mori,
y, 4.30 Scoopsport, 5.30 Mr.
6.00 Tell the Story, 6.15-
the Wild, 7.15 Lord
Avengers, 12.35 am

BORDER

10.15 God's Story, 10.30
 Makers: Hitler, 10.45-11.00
 of... Wynton, 11.05-11.20
 Takeaway, 1.00pm University
 nge, 1.30 Farming Outlook.
 3.30 Film: Bomb at 10.10
 4.30pm, 5.30pm
 e drama of plot who escapes
 e German Plot, 7.00-7.15
 7.30-8.00 Church, 7.15-8.15
 Hart, 11.30 Reflections, 11.35
 Milnor, 12.05pm Closedown.

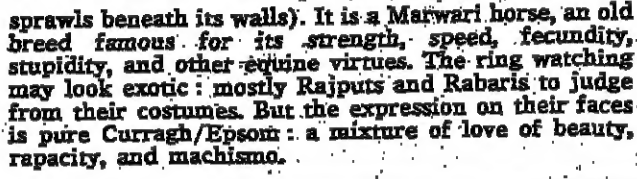
TVS

London except: 8.55am House
 union, 9.15 Be your own Boss.
 10.00 God's Story, 11.30-12.00
 ay, 1.00pm and Mrs, 1.30
 Day, 2.30-3.00 University
 nge, 2.30-3.30 Sunday
 show, 4.30-5.00, 5.25 Radio,
 5.30 News, 5.45-6.15 Hart to
 11.30 News, 11.35 Now Write,
 Milnor, 12.05pm Closedown.

Boas. 4.45-10.00 God's
3.30-12.00 Gardening Time.
Terming Outlets. 4.30-5.30
Pressball: Hoover Years. 4.30
yrv. 4.35 Cartoon. 4.45-6.30
Linda and Martin (Linda and
Adrienne Barbeau) Comedy
punch search for romance on
Tropical Island. 7.15-8.15 Hart
1.30 Closedown.

ANGLIA

except: Startis 9.30damm-
n along with Nancy. 11.00p
Your Own Boas. 7.00pm
yrv. 1.15 Gunsmoke Folk
10 Weather. 1.45 Farming
5 Cartoon. 2.30-3.30 Mutch
k. 4.30 Incredible Hulk. 5.30
homsie Comedy Builder.
Mr and Mrs. 7.15-8.15 Hart
3.30 Great Depression:
Mrs. 12.30damm Mr Noosh and



sprawls beneath its walls). It is a Marwari horse, an old breed famous for its strength, speed, fecundity, stupidity, and other equine virtues. The ring watching may look exotic : mostly Rajputs and Rabaris to judge from their costumes. But the expression on their faces is pure Curragh/Epsom : a mixture of love of beauty, rapacity, and machismo.

As foretold, it was not a bad one. There must have been 70 men out there at the tiny kirk by the Bressay pier and the graveyard seemed full of navy blue gaberdine, mackintoshes and, fashably-lamoured handkerchiefs busy with unaccountably troublesome noses. It was Candlemas Day and, as the Shetland folklore goes, "If Candlemas Day be the winter's end, the worst of the frosts are to come and the best of the sun is to dawn bright and fair; so even the most frail and elderly islanders were out in force to pay their last respects to Jessie O'Gorie.

Inside the kirk there was silent prayer, but no singing as the minister conducted the service of the Book of Common Prayer. No one felt much like singing. "Abide With Me," for, with Jessie, they were burying a way of life as well as a much loved friend and neighbour.

What age was she? A friend of the late Lord Brougham, who came home from the South asked another mourner.

"Only 78" was the reply and it was not as strange as it sounded, for Jessie had been so sprightly and cheerful, even in hospital after her bad fall, that everyone who knew her thought she might be on her feet again to live well into her nineties.

Jessie Laurensen had lived, at the little cove of Gorie for the past 42 years. Carefully tended bushes and dwarf trees surrounded the brightly painted house on the bleak east coast of Bressay, a bare-looking island that gives six miles of valuable shelter from the North Sea storms to the busy port of Lerwick.

Bressay made Lerwick but never went to town with it. It was there that it was, there before Lerwick sprang up in the seventeenth century to be a struggle of drinking dens and warehouses for the Dutch fishing fleet.

At Gorie, Jessie and her husband, Thomas, spent all the hospitality and traditions of a Shetland cove in the old style. They held no public offices, steered clear of politics, kept busy from dawn till dusk, stayed out of debt and generally lived the sort of life that never makes the headlines.

Yet they had a benign influence that extended far beyond the 320 inhabitants of Bressay and they are missed by hundreds of people from Tokyo to Stockholm who had the rare pleasure of visiting Gorie in its prime.

Tammie was fixing a pane of

glass in his greenhouse when he dropped dead two years ago. Now there is no one left to spin the yarn that he somehow persuaded to wine that he somehow came to the grow grapes on the same latitude as the grapes on the tip of Greenland.

The wind-made propellers of his two wind-powered electricity generators (which pre-dated the energy crisis by many years) are still. The croft lies dark, cold and silent under the shadow of the great hill of the Ward of Bressay.

Shortly before he died, Tammie rejected the chance to get mains electricity, although he did accept the telephone (for emergency use) and even burned paraffin in the cast-iron Victorian stove to heat his downy greenhouse system.

He grew too old to cut his own peats on the slopes of the Ward.

Gorie is only three miles from the urban whirl of Lerwick (population 8,000) but it is well off thearmac track and most visitors pass it by without seeing it.

It was the first time that Tammie visited to visit the national nature reserve island of Noss, where famous for its seabird cliffs. On bad days the Noss ferry cannot cross the tide race and it was on days of south-easterly winds that he visited his chair.

His first chance call at Gorie, as they explored the empty quarter of Bressay in search of the birds they had missed in Noss.

Among their friends Jessie and Tammie counted ornithologists, artists and photographers from all over the world, most of whom left with presents of a jar of black-currant jam, roses from the greenhouse, cuttings from stalwart fruit bushes or maybe a plant or two, in season, from the garden that in the winter the greenhouse heat at the back of the barn.

Bressay's population is rising, after a century of decline. The Island's future seems more hopeful than it did when the Gorie folk were young and Tammie had to go to South Georgia to make a living as the whaling trade faded.

But Bressay has jobs, modern housing estates, mains water and electricity, television and CB radio, an excellent car ferry and all modern conveniences, but after the funeral on Candlemas Day it will never be quite as rich as it was.

Jonathan Wills
Scottish Correspondent

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